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THE

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VOL. III., 1900

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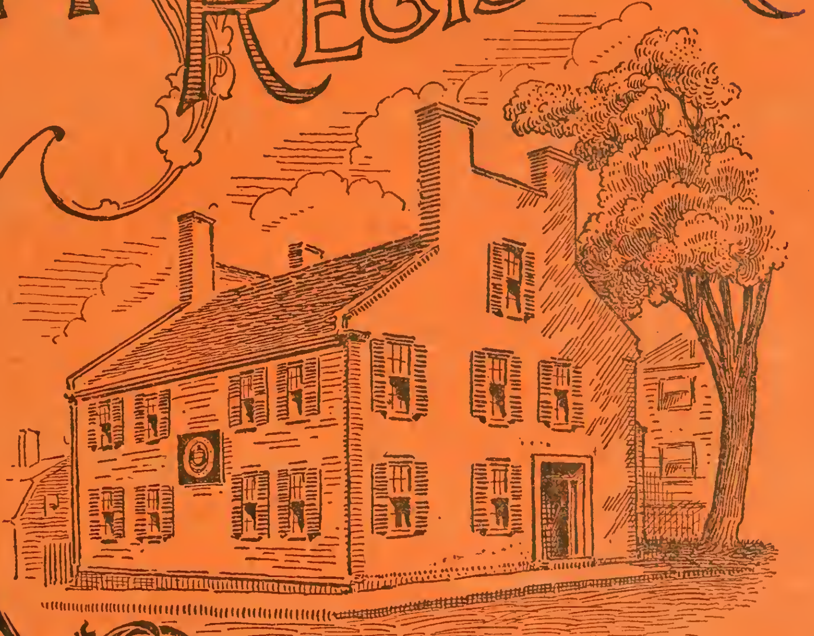

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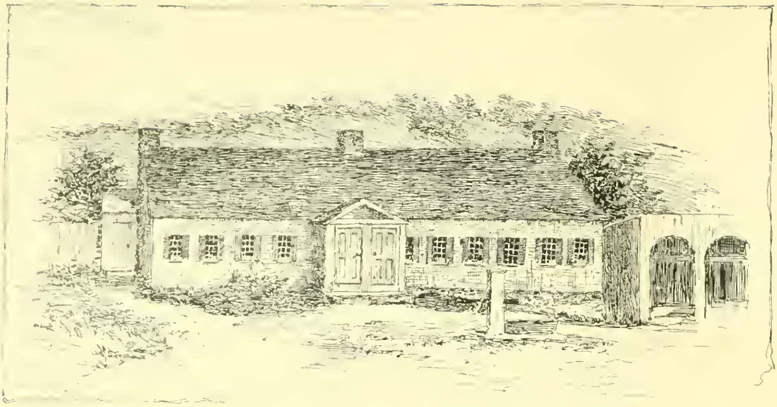

HIGH SCHOOL OF THE LAST CENTURY,

Located in rear of Unitarian Church.

MEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.

Forest Street, 1896.

The Medford Historical Register.

Vol. III. JANUARY, 1900. No. I.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL OF MEDFORD.

By Charles H. Morss.

"FORASMUCH as the good education of children is of singular behoof and benefit to any commonwealth, and whereas many parents and masters are too indulgent and negligent of their duty in that kind" the selectmen of every town were directed by the law of 1642 to have "a vigilant eye" over their neighbors, to see to it that the education of the children be not neglected. The law of 1647 made it obligatory on towns of fifty families to maintain elementary schools, where children should be taught to read and write, and those of one hundred families should also have a grammar school, "the masters thereof being able to instruct youth so far as they may be fitted for the university."

Good citizenship was then as now one of the great aims of the public school. The idea of what constituted this was explained by our ancestors in the preamble just quoted, and the law of 1647 adds a further explanation, as follows: "It being one chief project of Satan to keep men from the knowledge of the Scripture, as in former times keeping them in unknown tongues, so in these latter times by persuading from the use of tongues, that so at least the true sense and meaning of the original might be clouded and corrupted with false glosses of deceivers; to the end that learning may not be buried in the graves of our forefathers, in church and commonwealth, the Lord assisting our endeavors: It is therefore ordered by the court and authority thereof," etc. The penalty on the towns for non-fulfilment of the law requiring an elementary school in towns of fifty families and a grammar school in those having one hundred was placed at £5 in 1647, but increased to £10 in 1692, and again to £20 in 1702. The grammar school thus established must not be confounded with our present application of the term, but it is the use still prevailing in England and was the one contemplated by the law, that is, it is what we know as a Latin School or a High School that prepares pupils for the university. Upon the list of Medford taxpayers for the Province rate of £12–16s levied 21st Oct., 1719, while the inhabitants were agitating the question of the first school, were the names of seventy taxpayers, so that we may fairly infer that if Medford was not actually compelled to support an elementary school at this time she had about reached that limit.

The establishment of that first school is so important, so interesting, as well as so characteristic of the way town business was transacted in those early days, that the whole evidence regarding it is here presented, even though some of it has been given before.

The people of 1719 did not suddenly rouse themselves to the idea of teaching their children. Probably most of them could read and write already, receiving the instruction either in the home or in the neighboring town of Charlestown.

That such a proposition as establishing a school in the town was not an entirely new thought to the people is evident from one of the votes about building a meeting-house, passed at a town-meeting held Nov. 30, 1691, which reads: "At A meeting of the Inhabitants of Medford voted that Mr. John Hall, Sen. and Capt. Peter Tufts shall intreat Madā Wade and the overseer of maior Jonathan Wades farme for one quarter of an acre of land for the erecting and setting a meeting house near or upon the Land that s^{d} maior formerly appointed for a Schoole house that s^{d} meadford may injoy for their publick house." Thus one citizen, at least, had previous to the year 1691 given some thought to the establishment of a school, though there is no evidence that the town ever took any action upon the matter.

There were at this time only twenty eight names on the tax list, so a school was not compulsory. Nothing further appears about a school for nearly eighteen years, the meeting-house question probably filling the minds and emptying the pockets of the people so that there was no chance for school or school-house. The meeting-house, the agitation for which was here begun, was completed in 1696; but no mention is made of a school till 1719, when, as before mentioned, the number of householders probably necessitated action.

July 10, 1719, in the warrant calling a town meeting for the 15th was an article "to consider what may be proper to be Don in order to Setting up a writing school in S^{d} Town." The voters assembled on the 15th and adjourned to the 20th, without coming to a vote on the matter, though we can scarcely believe that so important and really revolutionary a matter did not receive full discussion on the 15th. But on the 20th it was "put to vote whether the Town will have some meet person to keep a writing school in y^{e} Town for three or four months in y^{e} winter season," and passed; and next, "Att s^{d} meeting putt to vote whether the Town will choose a Commity of five men to treet with some meet person or persons to keep a writing school in the town as aformentioned." Capt Tufts, Capt Ebenezer Brooks, Lieut. Stephen Hall, Ensign Stephen Francis, and Mr. John Willis were chosen, and two more, Deacon Whitmore and Jonathan Tufts, were afterward added, making this first school committee seven in number. The committee took time enough to give the subject careful consideration, for not until November 13 was the warrant issued for a town-meeting to hear the report of this committee. The voters assembled Nov. 30, 1719, but the committee had evidently come to no agreement, for no "meet person" was brought forward for the school. But the inhabitants voted to have the school kept the ensuing winter at the house of Thomas Willis, Jr., which was probably situated not far from the first meeting-house, near the junction of Woburn and High streets. A committee of three, Ensign John Bradshaw, Capt. Ebenezer Brooks, and John Willis, was appointed to secure a teacher. In considering the location of this first school, and also of the first school-house, we must bear in mind that that part of Winchester known as Symmes Corner belonged to Medford, that there were families residing there, and on Grove street, and that east of the Square there were very few residents, so that this location for the first school was undoubtedly near the centre of population. The Wade property, and the lot of land that the major had "appointed for a school house," was probably too far to the east to suit the majority of the voters. As we read farther in the records we see stronger and stronger evidence of the tendency of the east and west ends of the town to pull in opposite directions.

At the next meeting of the town, Dec. 11, 1719, the voters chose, undoubtedly on the recommendation of this committee of three, "Mr. Henery Davison, to keep a school in said Town for one q^{r} of a year next ensuing." The whole record of this meeting of Dec. 11, 1719, is interesting and valuable, showing how minutely the voters scrutinized every act and how cautiously they took each step. After the first school-master had been chosen, "Att said meeting put to vote whether y^{e} town will alow Mr. Davison y^{e} sume of Three Pound money for keepin school the time above s^{d} and also to diet him for y^{e} term above said," "Voted for y^{e} afft." "Att said meeting put to vote whether y^{e} Town will raise eight pounds money for defraying the charges of said school forthwith to be levied and collected of y^{e} inhabitants of said town in case said money be not raised by a subscription of y^{e} inhabitants of said town."

"Att said meeting put to vote whether y^e Town will choose a committy of six men to inform Mr. Davison of y^e Towns proceedings att this present meeting, and in case Mr. Davison do not except then said commity are hereby inpowred to treet and agree with some other sutable person on y^e Terms affors^d," "voted in y^e afftive."

With due formality Capt. Ebenezer Brooks, Ensign John Bradshaw, Capt. Samuel Brooks, Mr. John Willis, Mr. John Whitmore, and Mr. Thomas Oaks were chosen to wait on Mr. Davison and inform him of the action of the town; so our first school-master was thus inaugurated with becoming dignity, and as it had been the main topic through four successive town meetings, we can assume that it was considered a great step for Medford to take. The meeting then proceeded to appoint Mr. Thomas Tufts and Capt. Ebenezer Brooks (one from each end of the town, as was very fitting) to collect the subscription in accordance with their previous vote. Whether this first school was thus paid for can be simply a matter of inference, but the absence of any tax levy for this purpose leads us to suppose that the subscription was successful. Whenever the town found it necessary to raise money for the minister's salary, for the province tax, or for any other purpose, it was made out in a separate rate. This eight-pound levy that was voted appears nowhere on the record, so that the inference seems fair that Mr. Tufts and Capt. Brooks were sufficiently persuasive to render it unnecessary.

Thus was our first school established, called in the vote of the town a "writing school." But the name signified little, for it was probably one of those elementary schools of the olden time which aimed to teach simply the "three R's." In the later votes of the town it is mentioned as a "writing school," as a "writing and reading school," as a "reading school," and also as a "reading, writing and ciphering school," the only reason so far as I can see for giving it any name at all being to indicate its elementary nature and to differentiate it from a grammar school as understood in those days.

When this first step had been taken and the school launched, the people began to agitate the school-house question. Brooks in his "History of Medford" says: "Heretofore schools had been kept in private houses, but Feb. 22, 1720, it was voted to build a school house," and also "where the first school-house stood is not known, but it was probably near the meeting-house at the West End." Both of these statements need only a cursory glance to show their incorrectness. The first school, in the house of Thomas Willis, Jr., was not opened till after Dec. 11, 1719, and at the town-meeting Feb. 22, 1720, had kept only about one-half of its first term, but the inhabitants were sufficiently impressed with its importance to call a town meeting for Feb. 22, 1720, "to know y^e minde of y^e Town whether y^e will state a place for a school house and also to know whether the Town will build a new scholl house." "Att said meeting put to vote whether y^e Town will choose a committee of five men to consider of a convenient place for setting of a schoolhouse in said town which may best acomodate y^e whole Towne and to make report of y^e Doings herein att our generall March meeting next ensuing for y^e Towns concurrence," and it was thus ordered, the committee being Capt. Peter Tufts, Deacon John Whitmore, Capt. Ebenezer Brooks, Mr. John Willis, Mr. John Richardson. At this time the old meeting-house was outgrown, and needed repairs as well as enlargement. So again the school-house question was buried under this more weighty one of a meeting-house, and no report of this committee was ever made so far as recorded evidence directly shows. But all the indirect evidence at our command points decidedly to the fact that the town did not possess a school-building of its own till the expiration of thirteen years from the establishment of its first school. On Aug. 17, 1722, it was voted to have a "Scool keept," and Thomas Tufts, Esq., Capt.

Ebenezer Brooks, and Mr. John Bradshaw were chosen a committee to provide a teacher, and at the adjourned meeting October 15 this same committee was empowered "to agree with some person or persons for a sutable ROOM or ROOMS for y^{e} said scoole to be kept in and make report to y^{e} town of their Doings att y^{e} next adjournment." There is no record of the adjourned meeting, which was set for October 22, and the next town meeting held December 14 had nothing about schools. But if the town had possessed a house of its own at this time it would not be likely to hire a place or places for the school to be kept in. Likewise in December, 1726, we find the town voted to have a "Writting" School for three months and the committee were instructed to "Hire a School House for the time above said." And again, Nov. 25. 1728, the committee were chosen to "select a teacher and appoint a place." The same vote was passed Nov. 17, 1729. Beginning with 1729, we have another source of evidence added in the Treasurer's Book. On the very first page of his account we find the entry:

"To Cash p^{d} to Dea^{cn} Willis for y^{e} use of a Room for y^{e} Schole £1–10s." The dates of the first pages are obliterated so that we can tell only by the dates on the credit side — the right-hand page of the account — what the date should be. The date of this entry was probably 1730. On the fourth page of the book, under accounts for 1731–2, is this entry: "To cash p^{d} to y^{e} Widow Susanna Willis in full for a Room for the School in 1730/1, 10s." Deacon Willis had died in May, 1731, and Susanna was his widow. Farther down the same page, which seems to bring the account well along into the year 1732, is the entry: "To Cash p^{d} to y^{e} widow Susanna Willis in full for Room for y^{e} School in Time past, £2–02s." Accordingly we feel sure that the first school-house was not built in 1720. The duties of the school committee up to this time had been very simple. They were appointed for the specific duty of selecting a teacher and providing a room, and there their responsibility ceased.

Evidently there were inconveniences attending this first school of 1719–20, for the next year the question of division was brought up, and at an adjourned meeting, Dec. 12, 1720, it was voted that the "Town will Raise eight Pounds money for y^e Suport and incoragment of y^e School y^e ensuing Winter in each part of y^e Town namely y^e East and West Ends of s^d Town. To sett up w^r it shall best acomodate each Respective end of y^e Town and y^e money granted to be equaly Devided between each school." Jonathan Tufts, Peter Secomb, John Willis were appointed a committee for the east part, and Capt. Samuel Brooks, Lieut. Stephen Hall, John Whitmore for the west part. The committee for the east chose, as you know, the first teacher, Henry Davison, and the committee for the west chose Caleb Brooks, probably a nephew of the committeeman, a son of his brother Ebenezer. Where these schools were kept is a matter of conjecture simply, but it seems reasonable to suppose that the one at the west end was on Grove street or at Symmes Corner. This school seems to have been preëmpted by the Brooks family, as we find various entries in the Treasurer's book from 1730 to 1734 for sums of money paid Samuel Brooks, Jr., for teaching at the same time that another teacher was employed for the school kept in the building then owned by the town. This Samuel was possibly a brother of Caleb, the first teacher for the west part.

The agitation for a new meeting-house which began in 1716, and completely buried the proposed new schoolhouse in 1720, reached a climax in 1726, when the second meeting-house was built on the low land just east of Marble creek which has since been known as Meeting-house brook. This was finished and occupied in 1727. After the minds, and likewise the purses, of the inhabitants had had a proper period of rest and recuperation from the bitter contest of ten years, they bethought themselves once more of a school-house. The warrant for the town meeting of Nov. 17, 1729, contains an article as follows: "And also to know whether the town will have the old meeting house taken down and the material improved towards building a scoole House for the use of the Town and in Case the Town Comply therewith to Consider what Dementions to build and where to set the same." No action was taken on this matter that was deemed worthy of record. On Oct. 5, 1730, it was "voted to build a Scoole House," also "there shall be a Committee of five men chosen to Consider of the Place where and of what demention it may be proper for to Build s^{d} House and what the cost may be." The committee chosen consisted of John Willis, John Whitmore, William Patten, Jonathan Tompson, William Willis, who reported at the adjourned meeting Oct. 19, "that it would be Proper for the Town to Build their Scoole House, Twenty-four foot long, and twenty foot wide and ten foot stud & the Place they were of opinion to Build on was the Town land by the Meeting House Joyning near Ebenezer Brooks Junr. land, the Norwest Corner of said House to be at a stake and a stone which they have Prefixed."

This report was accepted, but when it was "Put to vote whether the town will raise Eighty Pounds money . . . for to Build a Scoole House and to Defray the charge of a scoole" the inhabitants said, No! The same attempt was made, with like result, Feb. 3, 1731, and again March 1, 1731. On Oct. 5, 1731, a committee of four men was chosen to consider the subject and report. The same *five* men were appointed to this committee, and they made the same report with the same result. But another year of waiting brought the desired result, for on Sept. 25, 1732, it was "put to vote whether the Town would now proceed to build a scoole House and that the s^{d} House shall be finished by the Twenty-fifth Day of November next Ensuing," and it was passed. Capt. Ebenezer Brooks, Capt. John Hall, and Benjamin

Willis were the committee appointed to build the house. It had been twelve years since the first recorded attempt to build, forty-one years at least since the subject was first broached by Major Wade ; and after the location and plan had been reported it still took three years with eight town meetings to secure this simple wooden structure, twenty-four feet long, twenty feet wide, ten feet high, on land already owned by the town.

The house was doubtless completed on time or very nearly so, because we find next to the last entry for the year in the Treasurer's Book : "Pd Benj. Willis on account of the School House £10 ; and in 1733 :

"Pd. Jona. Watson for work at School House £18–10s.
Jacob Polly " " " " 1–15
Sam. Francis " " " " 1–15"

The school house cost up to this time £32, but in 1734–5, month impossible of determination : "To Cash p^{d} to Deac^{n} Willis for the School house materials £20–2s. –6d."

"Cash pd John Bradshaw for materials for y^{e} school, 6s," making the total £52–8/6d.

There had probably been a school for three or four months every winter for the thirteen years from the establishment of the first school to the building of the first school-house, but the names of only five of the men who taught the children of Medford during this time have been found. Those known are —

1719, Henry Davison.
1720, Henry Davison, Caleb Brooks.
1728, [Ammi R.] Cutter, Harvard, class of 1725 (?)
1729, [Henry] Gibbs, " " 1726 (?)
Samuel Brooks, Jr.

Only the surnames of Masters Cutter and Gibbs appear in the Treasurer's record, but as it was a common practice for young graduates of Harvard College to teach such schools in the surrounding towns, and as we know that later some of our teachers were graduates, it seems but natural to look to Harvard for the record of these men. We find that, an Ammi R. Cutter was graduated in the class of 1725, and a Henry Gibbs in 1726; possibly, then, these were our teachers. Mr. Gibbs seems to have taught two years and was undoubtedly the last man to teach in the Willis house, where Henry Davison organized the first school. Samuel Brooks, Jr., taught at the same time with Mr. Gibbs, and was probably located at the west end of the town.

The first master of the school in its new building was undoubtedly Thomas Tufts, Jr., born in Medford, 1712, graduated from Harvard in 1732.

In this new building on the low land by the side of the second meeting-house the school flourished and increased in numbers. The Order Books of the Selectmen, which are fairly complete and in perfect condition from 1735, give us frequent and interesting information. We learn that Jona. Watson made "forms and tables for the Scoole House" in 1738, receiving £1–15s. therefor. The increasing number of boys who were seeking an education, as well as the excellent jack-knives with which each was equipped, made such repairs and additions frequently necessary. A luxury for the teacher was introduced in 1740, our town fathers in that year making this entry in their Order Book: "Sum Time in May last Gave order to Jeams perry for a Grat Chaier for the Scool Hous, 14s." Joseph Manning, who was the master from March, 1737, to March, 1738, and again 1739 to 1740, may have been the first to enjoy this luxury, though the honor may be disputed by William Vinal, who taught 1740 to 1742. This chair is heard from again twenty years later, after twelve different masters had enjoyed its comforts. In 1761 the Selectmen gave another order to James Perry for mending this "grat chaier." Samuel Payson, master from November, 1760, to March, 1762, was the occupant at the time of its decrepitude. But James mended it so well that it went on twenty-five years more, when again it gave way during the administration of Master Gannett, in 1786. As James Perry was not on hand to repair it, the work was done by Willis Hall, and nothing further is heard from it.

The financial stress which culminated in a petition for relief to the "Great and General Court for His Majesty's Province of Massachusetts Bay," May 20, 1735, may have been responsible for the delay in building the school-house. In this petition they say "that the said town is of the smallest extent of any in the Province, and yet their town charges extremely high, so that the maintenance of ministry and school is very chargeable to them and therefore praying for a grant of some of the waste lands of the Province to be appropriated for the support of the ministry and schoolmaster in said town." In answer to this petition one thousand acres were granted and laid out to the town between the Merrimac and Piscataqua rivers.

When the school was changed from a three or four months' term in the winter to an annual school we cannot determine accurately, but it was doubtless about coincident with the building of this first house, in 1732. We know that in 1735 there was a continuous session, only four weeks out of the fifty-two being allowed for vacation. The salary paid at this time was £5 a month. As the petition for relief was presented early in 1735 it seems fair to assume that the school was an annual one previous to this time, for the old rate of a pound a month for three months that was paid to the first teacher would not seem a sufficient burden from which to ask the General Court to give relief. From this time on the vacations were few, occurring at irregular intervals and mostly between the resignation of one master and the installation of his successor. William Whitmore, appointed master in September, 1744, resigned January, 1747. There was a vacation from that time till Caleb Upham took the office the April following. A still longer interval occurred between his resignation in January, 1748, and the appointment of Samuel Angier in

August of the same year ; but for the most part a new master seems to have been ready to take up the burden immediately on the resignation of the other.

That the school as first established was of a very elementary character is certain ; that later it became of higher grade likewise seems as certain from the indirect evidence. In the eulogy of Gov. John Brooks delivered before the Massachusetts Medical Society by Dr. John Dixwell, quoted in Brooks' "History of Medford," he says : "Dr. Tufts observed the anxiety of the mother to elevate her son to a superior station in life, and encouraged her to give him as good an education as their finances would permit. He was accordingly placed at the town school, where he was taught the rudiments of science and the Latin and Greek languages. Such was his proficiency in his scholastic studies, etc., that he secured the friendship of Dr. Tufts, who took him into his family at the age of fourteen to educate him for his profession." These subjects were taught in our school, then, before 1766. Dr. Brooks was born in Charlestown, Symmes Corner, in 1752, but this had become a part of Medford in 1754, so the town school referred to must have been our own, and not that of Charlestown. The school must by this time have lost its elementary character as indicated by the early votes previous to the town owning its building, and have assumed that of a grammar school or one fitting for college. When this change was made we have no means of knowing with definiteness, but the evidence from the amount of salary paid the masters, and the increase in length of the school-year, would place it not far from the time when the town built its first schoolhouse, in 1732. Medford has always been a law-abiding place and she probably complied with the law requiring towns of one hundred families to support such an advanced school. The teachers in this first school-house were all college graduates, as well as most of those in the second building. This statement is made with positiveness, though the evidence is wholly by inference. The men who taught our school bore the same name as graduates of Harvard College of about the same date, and, as several of these are a little unusual, it seems fair to infer that they were the same person. A John Feveryear taught the town school from September, 1752, to April, 1753, and a John Feveryear was a graduate of Harvard in 1751 ; naturally we infer they were one and the same person. Christopher Bridge Marsh was graduated from Harvard in 1761, and a man of the same name was a teacher in Medford from March, 1762, to January, 1763. A glance at the list of teachers from 1732 to about 1792 will show several such instances. In compiling the lists of teachers for this paper the dates of the beginning and the end of their terms of service are given, also the year when a person of the same name was graduated from Harvard College. The brief biographical information given is of the man graduated from the college, in the hope that at some future time evidence will be brought forward connecting the two beyond a doubt.

TEACHERS IN FIRST SCHOOL-HOUSE 1732-1771

From	To		Harvard Class	Notes
1732		Thomas Tufts, Jr.	1732	born, Medford, 1712
1733		Solomon Page	1729	b. 1710 Hampton, N.H. d. 1788 Bath, Me.
1735	Jan.-Aug. '36	Edward Upham	1734	entered college from Malden
1736	Dec.-Mch. '37	John Sprague	1730 1737	
1737	Mch.-Mch.'38	Joseph Manning	1730	from Cambridge d. at Woburn
1738	Mch.-June, '38	John Sprague	1737	
1738	-	Daniel Emerson	1739	
1739		Joseph Manning	1730	
1740	'42	William Vinal	1739	from Boston
1742	Oct.-Sept. '44	Andrew Boardman	1737	from Cambridge
1744	Sept.-Jan. '47	William Whitmore	1744	b. Medford, 1725 d. Mch. 10, 1760, of small pox
1747	April-Jan. '48	Caleb Upham	1744	from Malden
1748	Aug.-May,'51	Samuel Angier	1748	from Cambridge, d. 1775
1751	1 month	Cotton Tufts	1749	b. 1732 Medford.
1751	Aug.-June, '52	John Wiswall	1749	from Boston, b. 15 Apr. 1731

From	To		Harvard Class	Notes
1752	July–Aug. '52	William Symmes	1750	b. 21 Aug. 1729, Charlestown
1752	Sept.–Apr. '53	John Feveryear	1751	
1753	Sept.–June, '58	Samuel Angier	1748	from Cambridge
1758	Sept.–Feb. '60	William Whitmore	1744	d. Mch. 10, 1760, small pox
1760	July–Oct. '60	Roland Green	1758	from Malden
1760	Nov.–Mch. '62	Samuel Payson	1758	from Walpole
1762	Mch.–Jan. '63	Christopher Bridge Marsh	1761	from Boston
1763	Jan.–June, '66	Samuel Angier	1763	from Lexington
1766	June–Dec. '66	Alexander Sears Hill	1764	from Boston
1767	Jan–Sept. '68	John Page	1765	from Boston
1768	Oct.–July, '69	Asa Dunbar	1767	from Bridgewater
1769	Aug.–Aug. '71	Daniel Newcomb	1768	from Norton

Girls first had the privilege of attending the Town school in accordance with a vote passed May 13, 1766, "that the Com^{te} have power to agree with their Schoolmas^{tr} to Instruct Girls 2 Hours in a Day after the Boys are dismissed." That the committee exercised this new power is shown by an entry in the Selectmen's Order Book. To Alexander Sears Hill, Harvard 1764, belongs the distinction of first teaching the girls of Medford in her public school. The Selectmen record an order Jan. 19, 1767: to Alex. Sears Hill for teaching 6 m. £24–13, "from June 23 to Dec. 23, 1766 part of which time he Schooled the Girls as well as Boys." The regular salary of the teacher had been £20 for six months, so we may fairly infer that schooling the girls for six months was worth £4–13s. Brooks gives the date for first giving instruction to girls at public expense as 1776.

Whether girls were taught more than this one season or not does not appear from the records. The next teacher, John Page, received the following summer for the six months ending June 26 the sum of £21–6–8; then for the next six months only £20. Perhaps the experiment of teaching girls and boys together was not a success and was abandoned; though the additional £1–6–8 paid Master Page his first six months would seem to indicate that he rendered some extra service, and it is fair to assume that he too taught the girls a part of the time.

The site of the new school-house was found to be too marshy for comfort, as we infer from a vote of May 24, 1734, appointing Benjamin Parker, Lieut. John Francis, and —— Tufts "a Committee to take care to get the ground about the meeting House & betwixt the meeting House and Scoole House filled up That the Ground may be made commodious and to take the cheapest way they can either by selling the clay in said land or any other way they can save charge to the town." The evidences of this work, together with that required by a vote in 1751, are still visible to those who carefully examine the land on the south side of High street, between Meeting House Brook and Winthrop street, where stood both the second meeting-house and the first school-house.

After this filling of the wet land these twin factors in education, the meeting and the school, seem to have enjoyed a period of comparative tranquillity. But many were still displeased with the location, and on March 25, 1740, it was "put to vote whether the Town would Raise up and Repair the Scoole House in the Place where it now stands." This the town refused to do and appointed Capt. Brooks, John Whitmore, Edward Oakes, Capt Hall, and Samuel Bradshaw "to Consult and discover together to Se if they could propose any Place for the said scoole House to be moved unto where the whole Town might comply To." This vote sounds like a bit of sarcasm, and, as might be expected, the committee did not agree. Then the vote was put "whether the Town would move the Said Scoole House to the corner of Samuel Bradshaws land near by John Reeds Barn and there was a Tye." But those who wished the school moved were in earnest and were not to be discouraged by an adverse vote ; so we find again, May 21, 1740, a motion "to move the Scoole House into the Country Roade betwixt Jon^{a} Bradishe Dwelling House and Mad^{m} Martin's House." This was not carried and another motion was put to "erect a Scoole House in the place or Places mentioned in last vote abovesaid." This too was lost, and still the *movers* kept up their courage and another motion rather complex in its nature and difficult of exact determination was put, " whether the Town would state a place for a Scoole House in the Senter betwixt y^{e} dwelling house of Mr. Jon^{a} Hall Sen. and Edward Oakes house he now dwells in and Mr. Samuel Brooks and Joseph Tufts House measuring in the Roads to find the Center and the Centers betwixt those Two Centers to be the place at or as near to that as a convenient Place may be obtained." This mathematical exactness did not meet with approval, and no further attempt to move the house was made this year. It looks like the controversy of East *vs.* West again. But this faction was evidently gaining strength, for when on Nov. 16, 1741, it was " put to voat whether they would chuse sum person to make sum repaiers in the Scool House to make it more comfortable for this winter " the motion was lost. Nothing more was attempted until 1745, when it was asked to have a door opened on the south side, which was refused. Nothing could be suggested about this first school-building without precipitating a quarrel. Dec. 5, 1746, they voted " to leave it to the Discretion of the Selectmen to do what they think shall be needful to the Repairing of the School House . . . to make it more comfortable for the winter ensuing." You will recall that it took about thirteen years to secure the building of this house, and then it took almost seven years to get it repaired when it had come to need such attention. The opposition to the location still continued. Nov. 8, 1751, the town refused to order the necessary repairs, but on the thirteenth it was " Put to vote whether the Town will reconsider the above vote, namely to repair the School House where it now stands." This was " passed in the affirmative *upon consideration* that the West end of the Town all above the Meeting house shall repair the School House where it now stands by raising it up one foot and filling it up with Gravel underneath and repairing the Chimney and Making it Comfortable on their own Cost." May we not fairly infer from this last vote that the whole quarrel was on that sectional issue, East *vs.* West, that from time to time during the whole history of Medford has occasionally been manifest ?

After this the question of moving the school-house was not again brought forward, and for twenty years peace reigned in the town meetings so far as school matters were concerned. But after forty years of service it is to be expected that a new building or extensive repairs on the old one would be necessary.

May 15, 1770, Benjamin Hall, John Bishop, Joshua Symonds, Capt. Thos. Brooks, and Willis Hall were appointed a "committee to provide a spot for a School House Between where the School House now stands and Mr. Bishop's and make Report at the adjournment of this meeting." They seem to have made no report at any time, and the matter was brought forward again at the March meeting, 1771, when it was "Voted to Provide a spott for the use of a Scholl," and also "to Build the School House upon the Land behind the Meeting House on the North West Corner of the Land." Benjamin Hall, Capt. Thos. Brooks, and Willis Hall were appointed the committee to carry out this vote. At this same meeting it was also voted that "the above Committee bring in a Plan or Plans the first Monday in April."

The second meeting-house had been sold and the third one on the site of the present Unitarian Church occupied. After getting better, more commodious, and more central quarters for the church the people's thoughts next turned to the school.

The first meeting-house absorbed so much attention and available money that the school-house was forced to wait. The second meeting-house, 1727, was followed by the first school-house five years later, 1732, and the third meeting-house was likewise closely followed by the second school-house. In the "History of Medford" it is assumed that this school-house was built in accordance with the vote of March 11, 1771, but at the adjourned meeting in April, 1771, that vote was reconsidered, and it was "voted to purchase a piece of Land of Mr. Jonathan Watson, thirty-five feet square, between his house and Mr. Putnams and to give him for the said land Fifty Mill^{d} Dollars." Also "voted to build a School House upon s^{d} land purchased of said Watson." Thomas Secomb and Joshua Symonds were added to the committee chosen at the March meeting to build, and they were empowered to select the plan for the building. The old house lot by Meeting House Brook was then sold for £38 Old Tenor, and the land on which had stood the second meeting-house and the first school-house was bought by Ebenezer Hall, Jr., for £197 Old Tenor.

The last master who taught in this first school-house was doubtless Daniel Newcomb, of the Harvard class of 1768.

The second building, called by Brooks in his "History of Medford" the third, was probably of wood, and was completed in 1771, as it is recorded that the Treasurer paid, Nov. 26, 1771, to Deacon Samuel Kidder and Jonathan Watson for building a school-house, £73–6–8. Brooks' statement about this building is as follows: "The third school-house stood very near the street, on land now owned by Samuel Train, Esq., about ten feet east of the house he now occupies; and when that mansion house was first repaired, the school-house was moved, and now makes part of the rear of said dwelling." This location must have brought it, in spite of its small size, pretty close to Jonathan Watson's house. Brooks evidently could find no date for the construction of this building, because he had accepted as a fact that the vote of March 11, 1771, meant a building back of the meeting-house, which he infers was of wood.

This location, as well as the building, seems to have satisfied all parties much better than the first one did, for we find no squabbles over moving or repairing it. The stirring events of these years without doubt so distracted the attention that little thought could be given to matters of small moment. But in the midst of the political excitement the people found time to think of the comfort of the children. Heretofore the only expenditure the town was called on to make for its school was for the salary of the master, his board, and keeping the building and furniture in repair. But at the very time when the various colonies were declaring themselves free and independent of the rule of George III. our citizens resolved that their children should be warm. On May 20, 1776, the town voted to purchase wood for the use of the school at the expense of the town. This had never before been done, and it is to be supposed that the school-master provided the fuel for keeping the room warm as best he could. It is possible that the old tax of three pence per week which the town decided in 1722, "that those persons that send there children or servants to y^e^ s^d^ Scoole" should pay was still enforced to meet the ordinary running expenses. However the payment had been made before, henceforth the expense was borne by the town, and each year the only duties of the school committee are to select a teacher and procure wood. This probably opened their eyes to the wastefulness of heating rooms by the open fireplace. As early as 1744 Benjamin Franklin had invented a fireplace that greatly economized heat, and with less fuel gave more heat and fresh air without draft, problems which our most modern systems of heating and ventilating have to deal with. This fireplace employed the same idea as the fresh-air duct of the modern furnace. The Franklin open stove was an outgrowth of this invention. At the March meeting in 1791 it was voted "to purchase a Frankling or Written house Stove for the School House & the Committee that provides a School Master & Wood be desired to procure it."

How long the action of the committee of 1766 giving the girls opportunity for instruction remained in force we cannot tell, but it must have fallen into disuse either through lack of patronage or unwillingness on the part of the teachers to teach girls, for we find that on April 2, 1787, the town found it necessary to vote "that the Committee that provides a School master be desired to see what he will ask to keep the Girls one Hour in the forenoon and one Hour in the afternoon for four Months & Report at May meeting." No report is recorded from this committee, and no extra salary seems to have been paid. Possibly nothing further was done. Again, April 5, 1790, it was voted that "John Brooks, Benjamin Hall, William Gowen, Willis Hall & Eben^{z} Hall, Jr., be a committee to see what method is necessary with regard to the girls attending the Master's School and report at the May meeting." This committee made a report as requested, and it was voted that the "Girls have Liberty to attend the Master's School the three Summer months." This presumably means that during these months the girls attended at the same hours with the boys.

The first step toward coeducation was thus taken. The older boys were generally emplooed on the farms during the summer months, so that it is likely that the girls and young boys attended at this time, and our citizens evidently considered that the older boys were thus out of the reach of harm.

For some reason or other the presence of the girls in the summer, even with the younger boys, was not satisfactory, as we find the subject brought up again in town meeting June 20, 1794, when a long series of votes was passed which explicitly defined the rights of the female sex. "That in the Future each sex attend school at different hours." "That the Females attend school from 1st May to 1st October." "That from the first of May to the first of October the Public School shall be kept 8 Hours every Day viz. 4 Hours in the morning and 4 hours in the afternoon except the afternoons of Thursday & Saturdays & such holidays as the Selectmen may Permit, said time to be equally divided between the sexes — during the rest of the year school hours to remain the same as heretofore and to be appropriated to the instruction of the boys exclusively." "That no children whether male or Female be admitted into the Public School under the age of seven years nor then unless they have been previously taught to read the English language by spelling the same. And as this Regulation will probably exclude many who have heretofore attended, therefore it is

"Voted, That the Selectmen are hereby impowered to pay school mistresses for Instructing those Children who are excluded from the Public town school and whose parents are unable to defray such extra expence — And as the great end of the Public School is to furnish the youth with such a measure of knowledge that they may be able to Read and write with Propriety and understand so much of arithmetic as may fit them for the Common Transactions of Life — Therefore voted that the Selectmen and School Committee be desired from time to time to make such regulations in the school as may best answer the above Purposes." This vote was at once put into effect. In the Order Book of the Selectmen, Aug. 5, 1794, is an order for the Treasurer to pay to Capt. Joseph Wyman for keeping Town School three months from May 1 to August 1 and also for keeping two hours each day longer than usual from 23 June to 1 October, 1794 — £36. The previous quarter Capt. Wyman had received £22–10s. After this time his salary seems to have been £10 a month, except from May to October, when it was £12–10s. monthly, making the cost of educating Medford girls £2–10s. a month.

The "great end of the Public School" as here defined indicates another thing with reference to our town school. It has been already stated that our school was doubtless a grammar school in the English sense, that is, a Latin School preparing for the University. This had been required by the law of 1692 in towns of one hundred families, but owing to the financial straits in which the struggle for liberty had left the people, the laws were modified in 1789, and towns with less than *two* hundred families were required to have only elementary schools, in which the prescribed studies were reading, writing, the English language, orthography, arithmetic, and decent behavior. Medford had in 1794 evidently gone back from the standard set up earlier.

The list of teachers in this second building, as well as in the first, is made up mostly of graduates of Harvard College. In the twenty-four years that this building was used as a public school there were twenty-seven different teachers.

TEACHERS IN THE SECOND SCHOOL-HOUSE 1771-1795

From	To		Harvard Class	Notes
1771	Aug.-Dec. '72	Jonathan Norwood	1771	Entered Harvard from Lynn, b. 1752
1772	Dec.-Mch. '73	Theodore Parsons	1773	from Newbury, b. 1751
1773	Mch.-Aug. '73	Samuel Poole	1770	from Reading, b. 1751
"	Oct.-Dec. '73	Thomas Farrington	1773	from Amesbury, b. 1749
"	Dec.-Mch. '74	William Stearns	1770	b. 1749, Lunenburg d. 1784 at Worcester.
1774	Mch.-July, '74	Jon^{a} Watson		There was a John Watson from Plymouth class of 1766
"	July-Sept. '75	Moses Taft	1774	from Braintree b. 1754
1775	Sept.-April, '77	Seth Sweetser		
1777	Apr.-Nov. '78	Abel Morse		
1778	Nov.-Apr. '79	Edward Brooks	1757	b. 1733 Rev. Edw. was chaplain on the "Hancock," returned to Medford 1777, died 1781.
			1775	from Gloucester
1779	June-June, '80	Samuel Chandler	1779	from Andover
1780	Aug.-July, '81	Williams Brooks	1780	from Lincoln
1781	Aug.-July, '82	George Hall	1781	from Medford
1782	Oct.-June, '83	Artemas Baker	1782	from Templeton, b. 1759
1783	Nov.-Jan. '84	[Henry] Wight	1782	" Medfield, b. 1752
1784	May-July, '84	Frederic Benjamin Parker		

From	To		Harvard Class	Notes
1784	July–Oct. '84	Jonathan Burr	1784	from Bridgewater
"	Dec.–Mch. '85	George Holmes Hall	1781	
1785	April–July, '85	Jonathan Burr	1784	
"	'86	George H. Hall	1781	
1786	Jan.–Sept. '86	[Barzillai] Gannet	1785	from Bridgewater
"	Dec.–Mch. '87	Joshua Cushman	1787	from Bridgewater
1787	Mch.–July, '87	——— Holbrook		
"	July–Feb. '88	Nathaniel Freeman	1787	from Sandwich
1788	Mch–Mch. '89	Nathaniel Prentiss	1787	from Charlestown
1789	Mch.–Sept. '89	Cotton Tufts	1789	Medford, b. 1771, d. 1835
"	Oct.–Dec. '90	Nathaniel Thayer	1789	from Hampton, N.H, 1769
1791	Jan.–Dec. '91	Samuel Chandler	1790	from Lexington, b. 1766
1792	Jan.–July, '93	Luther Stearns	1791	from Framingham, born at Lunenburg
1793	Aug.–May, '96	Joseph Wyman	——	———

From this list it will be seen that vacations were much more frequent and longer than formerly. From 1758, with the exception of the four months' vacation following the death of Master Whitmore, from smallpox, there had been no vacation of the school unless for a few days now and then until 1773, when there was an interval of the month of August between the resignation of Master Poole and the appointment of Master Farrington. Then these intervals became more frequent. Either the people were becoming more careless, or the boys had learned that the resignation of a master gave them a vacation, therefore they caused these resignations to be as frequent as possible. After 1780 these vacations were frequent and long, and we must suppose that in common with the rest of the Commonwealth the state of education was at a low ebb in Medford, a state which continued well into the first quarter of the present century.

It was during this period of decadence that teaching of music at public expense was first brought up, though not in connection with the school. Yet it is interesting to learn that that branch, which is now a regular part of the public-school curriculum, was considered of sufficient importance to receive public recognition. April 2, 1792, it was "voted to give ten Pounds for the Encouragment of Singing for the year ensuing." The same sum was granted in 1794–95 and increased to £20 in 1798. In this year, April 2, a committee of three, Jonathan Porter, Peter Tufts, and Nathan Adams were chosen to "provide a teacher and regulate the teaching of singing." From time to time we find similar votes. In 1808 it was "voted to apply Eighty dollars for the Encouragement of Singing to be applied by the Selectmen." Then in 1815, $50, in 1816, $100, and 1817, $75 were appropriated to the use of the Medford Amicable Singing Society. As Medford people as early as 1862 introduced the subject into their school curriculum, it is interesting to know that their grandfathers were also concerned about this same branch of education.

The meeting-house and school-house had from 1732 to 1771 been closely associated, standing side by side on the same lot, but since then had been separated by one house lot. At the March meeting of 1793 was begun a movement that brought them together once more. It was then voted that Capt. Ebenezer Hall, James Wyman, Ebenezer Hall, Jr., be a committee to find a more suitable place for the school house. Whether the building was outgrown or worn out we do not know, but judging from the size of the lot purchased, thirty-five feet square, the house erected on such a place must have been very small. The final and decisive action came June 5, 1795, when it was voted

"To Build a new school house."

"To Build a school house behind the meeting house."

"That the school house be built of bricks."

"To choose a committee for the purpose of five."

"That W^{m}. Woodbridge, Captain Wyman, Mr. A. Hall, Abijah Usher and John Bishop be the committee."

June 22, 1795, it was "voted to give Mr. W^{m} Woodbridge £220 with the old school-house and land, he agreeing to build a new school house agreeable to the Report of the Committee, The Inside to be Finished. Mr. Woodbridge to provide one Stove. The whole to be done to the Satisfaction of a committee to be chosen for that purpose."

"Voted That Benjamin Hall Esq^r. Thomas Brooks Esq. Mr. James Wyman Mr. Eben Hall Jun^r and Mr Richard Hall be a Committee to see that the School-house is Built agreeable to Contract."

This building was finished before Jan. 15, 1796, for on that date William Woodbridge was paid the final instalment on his contract of £220.

Capt. Joseph Wyman was the last teacher in the old building, our second school-house, as well as the first in the third, the brick house on the land back of the meeting-house, his term of service extending from August, 1793, to May, 1796.

Under the authority to pay at the private schools the tuition of young children whose parents could not afford to do so none seem to have availed themselves of the privilege till the year 1797, when Eliza Francis presented her bill for schooling Mrs. Butterfield's three children and received on Jan. 10, 1798, an order on the Treasurer for $6.84. The town passed the same vote regarding the payment of tuition in 1799, again in 1800, and also in 1801, when they "voted that the Interest of the money Received for the land left the Town by Isaac Royal Esq. be applied to pay the Schooling of such Children whose Parents are unable to pay for them." Payments for tuition of young children were made from 1798 to 1822, even after the establishment of free primary schools. The teachers of private schools who received payment from the town during this time were as follows in the order of their appearance on the books of the selectmen: Eliza Francis, Sally Tufts, Prudence Foster, Mrs. Johnson (?), Mrs. Benj. Pratt, Rebecca Blanchard, Susanna Usher, Abigail Simonds, Lucy Shedd, Hannah Greenleaf, Bethiah Hatch, Harriet Greenleaf, Betsey Stimpson, Susan Hall, Elizabeth M. Bradbury, Nancy Fulton. Mrs. Johnson very probably was not a teacher, for she received on Jan. 8, 1800,

$3.62 for schooling of her children, doubtless a reimbursement for what she had paid out for the purpose to some one else.

With the shortsightedness of the average town manifested when providing school accommodations, the brick school back of the meeting-house was soon outgrown and the propositions for relief that were brought forward seem to have caused considerable turmoil and bad feeling. In the warrant for the meeting of March 12, 1804, was an article "to hear and act upon the petition of Eben Simonds and others for dividing the town school." A committee was appointed "to examine what alteration might be made in the town school and to report their opinion at the April meeting. This whole matter is very important, as it marks the abandonment of a principle in education which gave strength to the town school of Medford through the first century of her history — the principle of concentration. Now came the request to divide not horizontally, that is, by grades and ability, but sectionally, so that each and all schools would have a complete series of classes from lowest to highest. The committee made their report and the original paper, dated May 7, 1804, is on file : "We the subscribers a Com^{te} appointed to consider what alterations are proper to be made relative to school in this Town report as our opinion that it is expedient to make an addition to the present school house sufficient to accommodate half the Scholars — and to Employ two Schoolmasters for the Instruction of the Youth in town to be divided as the School Committee shall think most proper. signed Samuel Swan j. Fitch Hall, Caleb Brooks, Joseph P. Hall, Jon^{a} Brooks, Committee."

April 1, 1805, it was "voted not to accept the report of the Committee, to have the School house enlarged and hire another teacher to instruct half the scholars." A petition signed by Nathan Adams and fourteen others was presented, the selectmen asking for another town meeting on the subject, and May 1, 1805, it was voted "to build two school houses, one this season, the other to be in readiness for building next Spring."

"Voted to procure a building lot as near Gravelly bridge as possible or convenient and build a school house of wood this season." Capt. Nathan Adams, Benj. Tufts, and Converse Francis were the committee for the purpose. It was further voted at this same meeting "to choose a committee to look out a piece of land at the west end of the town, procure materials and report their doings at the March meeting." Then they proceeded to vote "That the School committee under the direction of the Selectmen shall hire a master and divide the scholars."

The next step in this comedy was another petition to the Selectmen, as follows: "We the Subscribers inhabitants of the Town of Medford request you Gentlemen to call a Town Meating to know the minds of the Town, if they will furnish the Scool house at the east end of the Town and provide a Scool Master to keep in the Same as Soon as the Scool house is ready or any other mater relating thereto."

Signed by Nathan Adams, Converse Francis, Isaac Pratt, and fourteen others.

The meeting was held Oct. 7, 1805, and they "voted To reconsider the votes passed last May for building two school houses," after which the meeting was dissolved. A warrant for another meeting was issued October 10 "to determine whether the town will adopt any new measures to improve the state of the schools and school-houses in the town." October 14 it was voted not to finish the new school-house in the east part of the town. "Voted that the Selectmen be a committee to sell the new school-house and the land on which it stands, purchased for the town."

This land had been conveyed to the town by Converse Francis, and in the deed the bounds are thus described: "One acre, bounded westerly on a lane running from Malden road to the shipyards and river, one hundred feet, southerly on land of Daniel Copeland twenty six rods ten links, easterly on land of Richard Hall one hundred feet, northerly on land of said Hall twenty six rods ten links to the lane aforesaid." This land in accordance with the vote of the town was sold with the building upon it to Hezekiah Blanchard for six hundred dollars. The record of the deed bears date April 11, 1800. The opinions of the town were divided fairly evenly, for in true "dog-in-the-manger" style it was voted again, March 2, 1807, "That the Town will not enlarge the old school house," then "to reconsider the former vote for not enlarging the school house." "Voted That a Committee of five be chosen to report at the April meeting what will be best to do with the school house." "Voted To reconsider the above vote and that they will have the school house enlarged." "Voted To choose a Committee to enlarge the school house of three, to proceed to make the enlargement without Delay." Nathaniel Hall, Nathan Wait, Ebenezer Hall were chosen the committee. Then, having reached this conclusion, another permanent improvement was decided upon, "to have a well dug in a suitable place for the use of the school," and the above committee were "to dig a well and Fix a pump in the same with a Bason chained on." May 11 of the same year it was voted "to have an assistant employed in the Town School to be provided by the school committee as they may think proper." Then, having decided to be good-natured, they further voted to rebuild the forms and benches in the old school-house and make it comfortable for the old teacher and the new.

Samuel Weed, of Amesbury, Harvard, 1800, was the teacher at this time, his service extending from Feb. 3, 1806, to Aug. 24, 1807. Abijah Kendall began his work in the school July 27, 1807, and was probably the assistant authorized by vote of May 11. Mr. Weed received one hundred dollars a quarter and board, and Mr. Kendall seventy-five dollars and board. David Bates, of Cohasset, Harvard, 1807, succeeded to Mr. Weed's salary and probably to his position as head of the school, for he received one hundred dollars a quarter and board, while Mr. Kendall still had seventy-five dollars and board. But after Mr. Bates' resignation, Aug. 30, 1808, the two teachers of the school were on an equality so far as salary went, each receiving twenty-five dollars a month and board, which was increased to thirty dollars in 1810. Abijah Kendall rendered the longest service to the town of any of its teachers up to this time, having been in service from July, 1807, to May, 1819.

The people seem to have become entirely reconciled to the old brick school-house after its enlargement. In 1812 they voted to build a Russian stove so as to accommodate both rooms.

After this luxury was installed the girls probably availed themselves of the privileges granted them in such numbers that the school became crowded, for we find a vote May 10, 1813, " that no children under seven years of age be admitted to enter the Town School for females unless by consent of the master and school committee." The girls had been striving from 1766 to get an education at the Town School and probably some had succeeded and by their good equipment converted the town to the idea of employing them as teachers. March 3, 1817, the school committee were for the first time " authorized to employ one or more female Instructors of the Girls at the Town School the ensuing year at their discretion." Abijah Kendall's wife was employed for this work at twenty-five dollars a month and board, and from that time on for about a year and a half the husband draws with great regularity both his own salary and his wife's. She taught with her husband until December, 1818. March 1, 1819, we find the town voting to employ another master in addition to the one now employed. Peter T. Gray was then employed. A committee was also appointed at this meeting to consider school accommodation and organization, and at an adjourned meeting, April 5, they made a lengthy report to this effect :

" 1st That the town contains 202 families or house holders and that the law requires that each town that contains that number of families or householders shall be provided with schoolmasters for such term of time as shall be equivalent to two masters a whole year.

" 2d that the Town now contains one hundred and fifty nine boys over the age of seven years.

" 3d That the town contains 158 girls over the age of 7 years and neither of the above numbers do contain the children that belong to Doct^r Stearns' or Miss Hannah Swan's School, excepting those that belong to the town.

" 4th That the Town contains 117 children of both sexes over 4 years of age and under 7 years of age that require to be taught in the summer season by women teachers.

" 5th We would recommend to have the School Committee authorized to employ one school master the whole year & one other school master for the term of six months beginning about the first of November & that both said schools be kept at the school house by the meeting house.

" 6th That the School committee be authorized to employ three women teachers for six months beginning about the first of May who are to teach the girls of all ages from 4 years old and upwards & the boys from 4 years old to 7 unless they are sufficiently qualified to go to the master's school.

" 7th That one of these womens schools be kept at the westerly part of the town somewhere near Brooks corner so called.

" 8th That one other woman's school be kept at the school house by the meeting house.

" 9th That the other woman's school be kept at the easterly part of the town somewhere near the mile lane so called where a place can be provided for the accommodation of said school." Nathan Adams reported for the committee.

This report was accepted and William Ward, Nathan Adams, Nathaniel Hall, Dudley Hall, Joseph Swan were appointed a committee to estimate expense, and report. Thus the first step was taken toward our modern system of graded schools, all taught at public expense. But there was some opposition to public primary schools shown when Mr. William Ward on May 5, 1819, presented the report of this committee in which the statistics of school population given in the previous report are juggled with in such a way as to show no necessity for the recommendation therein made, and this startling prediction is made : "It does not appear to your committee that at no future year will the daily average number of boys and girls who attend the town school ever exceed the average number which have attended the year past." This evidently represented the extreme conservative who is unwilling to acknowledge that there has been any change since he was a boy. The report proceeds "with regard to the 117 children over 4 and under 7 years of age your committee find a vote of the Town recorded June 20, 1794, as follows" : — then is given the vote already mentioned providing for the payment of tuition of those children whose parents are unable to bear the expense. "If the votes of the town are not to remain a dead letter : if the Selectmen still retain the [power] therein contained then it becomes a question how many of these 117 children their are whose parents cannot defray the expense of having there children under seven years of age instructed by one of the many school mistresses that are in Town and whether by agreeing to pay the schooling of such as cannot afford the expence there would be a necessity for new teachers. Your committee find there are six women teachers now in town who have with great industry and to the satisfaction of the parents and children each of them got up a small school and gain their living by teaching those small children and those women reside in such parts of the Town as accommodate all. Therefore y^{r} committee for the above reasons regret exceedingly that any measures have been adopted previous to a thorough investigation of the subject and do believe that the 117 might be instructed in the schools now kept in town to the intire satisfaction of all parties at a very little expence, certainly far short of the expence contemplated. The Town Schools in Boston give great satisfaction yet the Teachers have daily 150 scholars to attend to, and your committee do believe that one master the year round is sufficient for all the boys that will attend in town."

Having made these observations, they proceed to state that the whole expense the last year was as follows, viz.:

" Mr. Kendall	$575.32
" for small children	30.
" for 6 m. women's school	150
	755.32

" The expenses will be for the present year to carry into effect the report of your former committee and accepted by the Town as follows

" A yearly master at $20	$240
board " 3	156
" A master 4 m at $20	80
board at $ 3	52
" 3 women teachers 25 wks at $4	$300
" Rent for womens school house	45
	873
" more than the year past	117.68 "

But in spite of this elaborate protest, evidently in behalf of the dame schools, public primary schools were in 1819 made a part of the school system. The town disposed of this last report by voting that that part of the report "not relivant to the estimation of the probable expense of arranging the schools" be stricken out and the rest accepted. But these primary schools were more than we understand by that term to-day, for the girls of all ages must attend them, none being allowed in the school of the master.

These schools were established in the summer of 1819, the eastern one at the house of Rhoda Turner, who received "for the use and improvement of a room for a School Room for six months ending Nov. 1, 1819, $25." At the west end, Jedutham Richardson, who lived on the corner of High street and Hastings lane, seems to have benefited by this, for he received on Nov. 6, 1819, "For his daughters Sally and Harriet teaching school from May 1 to Oct. 30 at $2 a week, $51.40," "For boarding the teachers of the school $51.57," "For the use of a room for the Town School $20." Miss Eliza Gray taught the primary school and all the girls in the brick school-house, and Miss Eliza B. Wait, the eastern school, at the house of Rhoda Turner, situated, I am informed, on Riverside avenue near where the Boston & Maine freight-house now stands. Up to the time when these schools were opened, there had been two male teachers occupying the two rooms in the brick school-house, and when Miss Eliza Gray took charge of one room it was necessary for one of the men to drop out. Judging from the books, Abijah Kendall, who had taught for twelve years, was the one dispensed with, for Peter Gray continued teaching after these schools taught by women were established, remaining until April, 1820. Nathaniel Cogswell took charge of the school which Miss Gray had taught during the six months summer term as voted by the town, and continued in office till November, 1820, displacing the master of the boys' school.

There are indications of dissension at the time these changes were made, possibly dissatisfaction with the teachers, possibly with the system. The school committee advertised for a male teacher in the spring of 1820, and among a batch of letters of application that in some way escaped destruction are those of both Mr. Kendall and Mr. Gray. Neither of them seems to have been acceptable to the committee. Nathaniel Cogswell was continued through the summer, and in the winter William H. Furness taught a term, and as no other man seems to have been employed with him the second room was probably unoccupied.

TEACHERS IN THE THIRD SCHOOL-HOUSE 1795-1846

From	To		Harvard class	Notes
1795	May, '96	Joseph Wyman	——	
1796 Aug.–	Dec. '96	Thomas Mason	1796	from Princeton, Mass., b. 1769
1796 Dec.–	July, '97	Leonard Woods	1796	from Princeton, b. 1774
1797 Aug.–	Aug. '99	Daniel Appleton White	1797	from Methuen, b. 1776
1799 Sept.–	Nov. 1800	Silas Warren	1795	from Westown, b. 1767
1801 Mch.–	April, '03	Abner Rogers	1800	from Hampstead, N.H., b. 1775
1803 May–	June, '03	Peter Nourse	1803	from Boston, b. 1774
?	?	Daniel Swan	1803	b. 1781 at Charlestown
1806 Feb.–	Aug. '07	Samuel Weed	1800	from Amesbury, b. 1774
School-house enlarged and two schools established 1807				
1807 July–	May, '19	Abijah Kendall	——	from Templeton
1807 Aug.–	Aug. '08	David Bates	1807	from Cohasset, b. 1784
1808 Sept.–	Nov. '11	Noah Kendall	——	
1812 April–	Oct. '12	Eliphas B. Jones		Taught Girls School.
1813 May–	Nov. '13	Jeduthan Richardson, Jr.		“ “ “
1814 May–	Nov. '14	Samuel Campbell		“ “ “
1815 May–	Oct. '16	Nathaniel Magoun		“ “ “
1817 May–	Nov. '18	Mrs. Abijah Kendall		first woman employed.
Primary schools established 1819.				
1819 Mch.–	April, '20	Peter T. Gray		
1819 Nov.–	Nov. '20	Nathaniel Cogswell		
1820 Nov.–	Feb. '21	William H. Furness	1820	from Medford
1821 Feb.–	Oct. '21	George W. Osborne	1820	from Boston b. 1779 d. 1876
1821 Nov.–	July, '26	Luther Angier		
1822 Jan.–	Feb. '22	Calvin Lincoln	1820	from Hingham
1823 Jan.–	Feb. '23	George W. Burnap	1824	from Merrimack
1827 Jan.–	June, '27	Jacob Gutterson		
1827 June–	May, '28	William B. Duggan		
1828 May–	Sept. '32	Amos P. Baker		
1832 Oct.–	June, '33	Seth Pettee		
1833 June–	May, '34	Thomas S. Harlow		
1834 May–	April, '35	Alexander Gregg		High School established 1835

From	To	
1835 May-	Aug. '38	Benjamin F. Tweed
1838 July-	April, '40	James G. Foster
1840 May-	Nov. '42	Benjamin F. Gilman
1842 Nov.-	Aug. '43	Thomas Starr King
1843 Aug.-	Apr. '46	Aaron K. Hathaway

HIGH SCHOOL IN THIRD SCHOOL-HOUSE 1835-1844

1835 May-	Aug. '35	Charles Mason
1835 Aug.-	Mch. '36	Luther Farrar
1836 April-	Feb. '41	Daniel H. Forbes
1841 Mch.-	April, '44	Isaac Ames
1844 April-	Sept. '44	M. T. Gardner

The easterly section of the town, whose early ambitions for a school-house had been so completely buried in 1805, began to show a revival of courage. A petition dated Feb. 3, 1823, signed by Nathaniel Jaquith, Elisha L. Tainter, and seven others, asked for a school in the east part of the town. This was referred at the March meeting to a committee of five persons to consider and report. These five were Andrew Blanchard, Galen James, William Bradbury, Turell Tufts, and Nathan Adams. April 7 they reported that "they have ascertained the number of children living in that district to be of boys from 7 to 16, 56; boys from 5 to 7 and girls from 5 to 16, 80, about 136, and having considered all circumstances of their situation think it reasonable that they should be accommodated with a school house. That it may be placed on the front line of the burying place and that a house of brick with a small out house may be finished at an expense not exceeding $425."

This report was accepted and the Selectmen were authorized to advertise for proposals. Another meeting on this matter was held on May 5, 1823, when it was "Voted that the selectmen be a Committee to contract for building a new school upon the front part of the new burying ground; with a suitable out house, all of bricks, so as the same when completed shall not exceed the sum of five hundred dollars to be paid by the Town."

To show how much progress, or perhaps lack of progress, had been made in school-house architecture since our first building in 1732, a part of the contract for this building given to Benjamin Pratt, mason, and Thomas Pratt, carpenter, is here quoted: "The said House is to be built of well burnt bricks — in length 28 ft, in breadth 23 ft, in height 10 ft from the stone foundation which is to be one foot at least in the ground below the surface and one foot above the the surface, which last must be of faced Stone. The roof is to be of pine Timber, boarded and shingled and pitched the whole length of the House in the proportion of about ⅓ to the width of the building.

"The walls all round are to be in thickness the length of one Brick of Eight inches in length and of four inches in Breadth. In the front and in the Rear three windows, and one at each end of the House, twenty-four panes in each window, and glazed with good Glass of the size denominated seven by nine. The east window to be placed as the Comm. shall direct; four of the windows to be furnished with blinds painted and hung with hinges above the window frames. There is to be one outside door — — — to open into an entry which is to be laid out five feet wide from the east end of the House the whole breadth with one inch and ¼ Board *tight;* in the middle of which partition a door is to be made opening into the school apartment. The entry is to be plastered on the brick wall, and lathed and plastered above. The apartment for the school to be laid out 21½ ft sq and seats and desks and benches to be laid out and erected according to a plan made by Thos. Pratt, Carpenter. The walls inside are to be boarded up to the lower part of the Window Frames, and above are to be plastered on the Brick work up to the plate from whence the ceiling is to be arched and lathed and plastered and white washed.

"A small chimney is to be built on the Top of the House in the centre of the Building for the purpose of passing out a stove pipe or funnel. — and a stone step to be fixed at the Door, or inlaid with the foundation. Signed May 5, 1823.

"Turell Tufts — Nathan Adams
"Joseph Swan for the Town."

Medford seems to have been singularly fortunate in one respect at least: she did not drop into the educational decadence after the Revolution so far as many towns that adopted the district system. She never had districts in the full meaning of that word; we find no record of moving schools held first in one "angle" "squadron" or "district," then in another, but her schools were kept in her one school-house. Although we find the town divided later into so-called districts, they were not so in the meaning of the law of 1800, which made each district a separate corporation with power to levy taxes, to sue and be sued. Medford has been spared that degradation. The subject was not even brought up in town meeting till April 4, 1825. The committee appointed at the March meeting on the subject of School Committee and School Districts made the following report: "That they find the whole number of children 14 years old and under to be 525: of which number 159 are under 4 years of age, leaving 366 from 4 to 14 years of age: of which number about 50 will probably attend private schools, leaving 316 to attend the town schools. Under these considerations your committee recommend that the Town be divided into two Districts in the following manner. All inhabitants to the Eastward of the House of Dudley Hall Esq. and on the North side of the river to form 1 District — to be called the East District — and all the Inhabitants on the South side of the river and all to the Westward of said Hall's house, including said Hall's family to form one district to be called the West District. Your Committee further recommend that one schoolmaster be employed to each District through the year, and that two schoolmistresses be employed in each district for the term of 6 mos. in each year. Your Committee further recommend that a School Committee be chosen by the Town to consist of three from each district with full power to carry the foregoing arrangements into effect. John P. Clisby. Galen James. Nathan Adams Jr. Report not accepted, but

"Voted — That so much only of said report as provides for dividing the Town into 2 school districts be accepted.

"Voted — That $1200 be raised for support of schools the ensuing year to be expended equally in both districts."

The dividing line between the districts did not please the people, and May 9, 1825, they voted "that that part of this town which lays east of the Mill creek including Stoneham old road, but not the Andover and Medford turnpike be considered as forming one school district."

The west end was beginning to tire of having its school for primary classes and girls kept in a private house, and its first school-house was erected in accordance with a vote passed March 2, 1829, "to build a school house of wood in the west part of the town." This building was pushed forward with great rapidity, for it was finished and the builder paid May 20. The cost was $385 for building and $20 for the lot, on the Woburn road, which was bought of Jonathan Brooks. After this our districts became known as the East, Centre, and West, which designation they still retain.

The location of the West School did not please the people, for very soon after we find its removal urged, and April 4, 1831, a committee that had been appointed to investigate reported "that having examined the ground and the circumstances in relation thereto they find that much the largest number of children who attend school live on the road that leads to West Cambridge and finding that the northeasterly corner of the Town's land by the Poor house will be as near central as any other spot that can well be obtained for that purpose they therefore recommend that said schoolhouse be removed and put on to said corner of the Town's land by the poor house . . . expense of removal not to exceed $10 by the Town." Nathan Wait, Nathan Adams, and George B. Dexter were made a committee to carry out this vote.

Something went wrong, for at another meeting called July 29, 1831, Jonathan Brooks, Nathan Wait, and Joseph Swan were made a committee to consider location, and practically the same vote was passed, and again Nathan Adams, Nathan Wait, and Noah Johnson were appointed a committee to move the building. The total cost of the removal was $119.32. This lot was near the corner of Canal and High streets.

The next building came in 1833, when on April 1 the town voted "to build a school house in the Eastern district not to exceed $400 in the whole expense thereof to the town." Elisha Stetson, Galen James, and John Sparrell were the building committee. This house was on Riverside avenue.

In the next year, 1734, we reach one of the most important events in the whole school history of the town. On March 3 the School Committee were "directed so to arrange the Town Schools that the girls shall enjoy equal privileges therein with the boys throughout the year." What was done that year we do not know, but probably something was accomplished or the town would not have been ready for the great stride forward which it took the following year, when, March 2, 1835, it was voted that a committee be chosen to inquire into the different and best methods of conducting public schools in other places, also into the state of our own public schools, to report what improvements, what numbers and kinds of schools are necessary in this town to qualify every scholar who desires an education for the active duties of life. "Also to report on the duty of the School Committee, the Teachers and Scholars." Nathan Adams, Galen James, Caleb Stetson, Robert L.

Ells, and Milton James were the committee appointed and they reported *in print* in April. The bill for printing this report has been found, but not the report itself, yet we still hope that some attic will be found that will put us in possession of one of the most important documents in the educational history of the town.

Thus, then, was our modern system of schools established, with one central high school, two grammar, with male teachers, and primary schools tributary to these. After one year of trial the new system seems to have met the approval of the school committee. At the March meeting, 1836, their report, a copy of which is on file at City Hall, was read but not printed. This is the first report on record of a Medford school committee. The report is given in full in the "Historical Register" for October, 1899. Since then the system has expanded by the addition of two more grammar schools, one in the west, the other in the south part of the town, and by the multiplication of primary schools; but the general plan adopted in 1835 remains essentially the same to the present time.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

It seems advisable to publish the earliest records extant of the receipts and expenditures of the town of Medford, as the book which contains them is too much worn for general use. The interests of the historian are doubly served by the conservation of the original records, and by making their contents accessible to the public. L. L. D.

TOWN OF MEDFORD TO SAML BROOKS TREASURER DR

[ ]729		s	d
To Cash paid for this Book	£:	10	6
To Cash paid Mr Cutter for keeping School in ye year 1728	13	10	6.
To a General Order to pay to Sundry Perſons	61	16	0
To Caſh paid to John Francis for Bricks for ye New Meet: Hose	1	4	0
To Caſh paid to Step: Francis for Iron work for ye New Meet: House:	4	5	11
To Cash paid to Francis Leathe for keeping ye Wid: Willis	2	13	11
To Cash paid to ye Reverd Mr Turell for his Sallary in 1729	100	00	00
To Cash paid to Mr Stephen Hall being pt: of ye charge of ye Great Comtee:	10	00	00
To Cash pd: Mr: Bowdoin, for Glaſs & Lead for ye New Meet: Houſe	30	00	00
To Do pd. to ffrancis Leathe. for keeping ye Widow Willis	14	00	00
To Cash paid to Capt Ebenr: Brooks. being pt of ye Charge of ye great Comtee	7	00	00
To Cash pd to Peter Seccombe, for ye aforeſd use	2	00	00
To Do. pd. to Benja: Willis, for Entertaining ye Great Commtee	17	13	05
To Cash pd: to Mr Stephen Hall, for pt: of ye charge of ye Gt: Comtee:	2	00	00
To Do pd. to Jonath: Bradſhaw, for highway work & his Room	0	12	00
To Cash pd: to Edward Oakes for his Pew lott & building	10	6	09
[ ] Do: pd. to Lydia Peirce for Sweeping ye Meeting Houſe in 1729	3	0	00
[ ] Do. pd. to John Bradshaw Junr. by Mr Aaron Clevelands Ordr:	8	6	03
[ ]o Do. pd to Mr Gibbs for keeping School in ye year 1729/30	10	0	00
[ ] Do pd to the Revrd. Mr Turell for Sally. due in ye year 1728	57	0	00
To Do pd to Mr Gibbs in full for keeping School in 1730 — —	10	0	00
[ ] Do pd. to Jonath. Bradſhaw, for highway work & his Room	1	15	00
[ ] Do p.d. to Deacn. Thos: Willis, for keeping ye Widow Willis	17	12	00
To Do pd to Benjn Willis, for his Pew, now Wm. Pattens — —	11	2	06
To Do. pd. for Flints for this Towns Stock — —	:	6	09
To Do: pd: To Mr Turell, in pt. for Sallary in 1730	28	0	00
To Do. pd. to Mr Bodoin in full for Glaſs & lead for ye New (Meeting-Houſe	29	4	06
To caſh pd: to Deacn: Willis, for ye uſe of a Room for ye Scholl	1	10.	00
To Do pd: To Mr John Whitmore, for Materials for ye School Room	0	14	00
To Do pd To Saml Brooks Junr: for keeping School in 1730	9	15.	00
To Do: pd: To Francis Leathe in full for bording the Widow Willis	10	10.	07
Omitted Entring before			
To Cash paid to Francis Leathe on acct. of ye Widow Willis	21	14	00
To Do: paid to Saml Brooks Junr for keeping School in ye Years 1730/1	4	00	00
To Caſh pd. to ye Widow Lydia Pierce for Sweeping ye Meeting-(Houſe in ye year 1730	3	00	00
To Do d, to ye Revrd Mr Turell in full for Salary in 1730	72	00	00

THE TOWN OF MEDFORD TO SAM^{L} BROOKS T[ ]

			s	
1729 Nov^{r} 17	To Caſh Rece^{d}: of John Richardſon Eſqr	£2	10	[ ]
1730 March 14	To Cash Rece^{d}: of M^{r} Step: Hall p^{d}: him by Jno: Hall for not Serv= Conſtable	5	0	[ ]
21	To Cash Rece^{d} of Cap^{t} Sam^{l} Wade for his Pew	10	[ ]	[ ]
	Loan rst To D^{o} Received M^{r} John Bradſhaw for p^{t}: of y^{e} 50000 Int	1	1 [ ]	[ ]
May 9	To D^{o} Rece^{d} of M^{r}. Will^{m}. Patten for his Pew -- —	5	0[ ]	[ ]
12	To D^{o} Rece^{d}. of M^{r} Peter Seccomb for his Pew	10	[ ]	[ ]
13	To D^{o} Rece^{d}: of Eben^{r}. Brooks Jun^{r}. for his Pew	9	[ ]	[ ]
	To D^{o} Rece^{d}: of Nath^{l}: Hall for his Pew	3	[ ]	[ ]
	To D^{o} Rece^{d}: of Benja: Tufts for his Pew	3	[ ]	[ ]
14	To D^{o} Rece^{d} of Cap^{t} Eben^{r}. Brooks for his Pew	1[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
	To D^{o}. Rece^{d}. of Richard Waite for his Pew	3	[ ]	[ ]
June 10	for To Cash Rece^{d}: of y^{e} Truſt^{es}: of y^{e} 60000 Loan ∧ Intereſt	3	[ ]	[ ]
Octob^{r}. 13	To D^{o} Rece^{d} of of John Bradſhaw Jun^{r} Conſtable	144	[ ]	[ ]
	To D^{o}. Rece^{d}: of Conſtable Stephen Francis	057	[ ]	[ ]
Jan^{r}: 4	house To Cash Rece^{d} of Benja: Willis for y^{e} Old Meeting			
1729	Omitted ſetting down before			
July 1st	To Cash Rece^{d}: of John Bradſhaw Jun^{r}. Conſtable	[ ]	[ ]	[
	To D^{o} Rece^{d}: of Andrew Hall, due from the Widow Willis's Eſtate to the Town of Medford	100	[ ]	[ ]
Feb 27	To Cash Recovered of Richard Waite Conſtable in the year 1728, being a Rate bill for Twenty five Pounds, And Costs of Court £5..2..9 all	30	0[ ]	[ ]
1729/30	Omitted Entring before			
march 21st	To Cash Rece^{d}. of Cap^{t} Sam^{l} Wade for y^{e} Building his Pew	[		]
1731/2 Febr 21	To Cash Rece^{d}. of M^{r} John Willis on of the Truſtees of y^{e} 50 Thouſand Pound Loan	[		]
	To Cash Rece^{d} of Andrew Hall on y^{e} A[ ]^{t} of y^{e} Widow Suſanna Willis	[		]
	To Cash paid by Dan^{l} Ruſsel Eſq^{r} by Order of y^{e} Justices of y^{e} Infer^{r}: C^{t}. of y^{e} Coun^{y}: of Mid^{x}	6	[ ]	[ ]
1732 June	To Cash Receiv'd of Stephen Greenleaf Conſ^{t}	10	[ ]	[ ]
	To D^{o}. Receiv'd of Stephen Greenleaf Conſtable	7	[ ]	[ ]
1731 march 1	To D^{o} p^{d}. by M^{r} Stephen Hall, paid him by Jonath: Tompſon w^{n}. he was choſen Conſtable	5	[ ]	[ ]
1732 Jan 17th	To Cash Rece^{d} of Step^{n}. Greenleaf Conſtable, for the firſt half of the Revrd. M^{r} Turells Salary in 1731	5	[ ]	[ ]

HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

MEDFORD AND THE STAMP ACT.

[The following articles were prepared by pupils of the High School in connection with the work in American History.]

The Stamp Act, which was passed by the British Parliament in March, 1765, required all legal documents and official papers to be written on stamped paper, and stamps were to be attached to articles such as books, newspapers, etc. The revenue from the stamp tax was to be used for supplies for the soldiers stationed on the frontier to put down Indian insurrections against the colonists. Although this revenue was to be used for the sole benefit of the colonists, they opposed the Stamp Act strenuously on the ground that "no taxation without representation" was one of the fundamental principles of the English Constitution and one of the first rights of the colonists as Englishmen. The people of Medford also joined in opposing the Stamp Act, but in a much calmer manner than was displayed by the rioters of Boston, who mobbed Hon. Thomas Hutchinson and did much damage to his household effects.

On the 21st of October, 1765, a town meeting was held in the meeting-house at 3 P.M. At this meeting it was voted to give instructions to the town representative, Stephen Hall, Esq., especially in regard to the Stamp Act. The people of Medford declared that their rights and privileges had been infringed upon and that the Stamp Act had taken away their privileges as free-born Britons. They expressed "unshaken loyalty to his present Majesty King George III.," and "great veneration to the august body of the British Parliament." They also expressed themselves ready to yield obedience to all laws of Parliament which were agreeable to their own constitution, but refused to obey them if any of their just liberties were taken away. Mr. Hall was further charged to "be no ways aiding or assisting in the execution of said act," but to work diligently towards having the act repealed.

Although the people of Medford desired to have the Stamp Act repealed, they did not approve of the violent means which the rioters of Boston used to obtain this result, as was shown by the following action :

On Oct. 20, 1766, at 2 P.M., a town meeting was held at the house of Mr. Hugh Floyd to give instructions to their representative, Stephen Hall, Esq., "relative to the losses sustained by sundry gentlemen upon the late disturbances at Boston on account of the Stamp Act." It was voted at this meeting that the town representative "be directed to use his influence, that such losses as were sustained by the Honorable Thomas Hutchinson Esq. on the 26th day of August, 1765, be made up to him, upon his application to the general assembly in a Parliamentary way."

MINNIE W. JACKSON.

MEDFORD AND THE TEA TAX.

WHEN the rest of the Townshend Acts were repealed in 1770 the tax on tea was kept to help establish the authority of Parliament. Every town resented the tax and took action against it. In November, 1774, a warrant was issued to the voters of Medford to meet and decide what action, if any, should be taken in regard to the selling and drinking of East India tea. At this meeting they "voted that we will not use any East India Teas in our Families till the Acts be Repealed" — and also appointed a committee consisting of Benjamin Hall, Deacon Kidder, Deacon Warren, Caleb Brooks, and others, to post in some public place the names of those found selling or using tea in their families.

Later we find that the town, being informed that "severall ships were already arrived in Boston with large quantities (of tea) on board and severall more daily expected," therefore, "to Prevent the many formidable evils consequent upon the Success of this alarming & subtle attempts to rivet the Chains of oppression," they

"Resolved 1st That it is the incumbent duty of all free British Subjects in America to Unite in the use of all lawfull measures necessary and expedient for the preservation and security of their rights and priviledges, civil and Religious.

"2nd. That it is the opinion of this Town, that the British parliment have no constitutional authority to tax these colonies without their own consent and that therefore the present duty laid upon teas imported here from Great Briton for the purpose of a Revenue, is a tax illegally laid upon and extorted from us.

"3rd. That sd. India Company, exporting their own teas to the Colonies while charged with sd. duty, has a direct tendency to establish sd. Revenue act.

"4th. That we will exert ourselves and join with our American bretheren in adopting and prosecuting all Legall and proper measures to discourage and prevent ye landing storing and vending and using those Teas among us, and that whosoever shall aid or assist sd. India Company, their Factors or Servants in either Landing, Storing or Selling the same does a manifest injury to his Country and deserves to be treated with severity and contempt.

"5th. That we are ready at all times in conjunction with our American bretheren as Loyall subjects to risque our lives and Fortunes in the service and defence of his Majesty's person, crown & dignity and also as a free people in asserting and maintaining, inviolate our civil and Religious rights and priviledges against all opposers whatever.

"6th. That the thanks of this Town be and are hereby given to our worthy bretheren in the Town of Boston for their unwearied care and pains in endeavoring to preserve our rights and priviledges free from innovation and furnishing this and our other Towns with Copies of their late proceedings."

The stubbornness of the King, however, was proof against all such petitions, and a Revolutionary war compelled what a narrow statesmanship had refused to grant.[1]

ELIZABETH ESTES.

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[1] For Medford's part in the Revolution, see "Register," Vol. II., No. 1.

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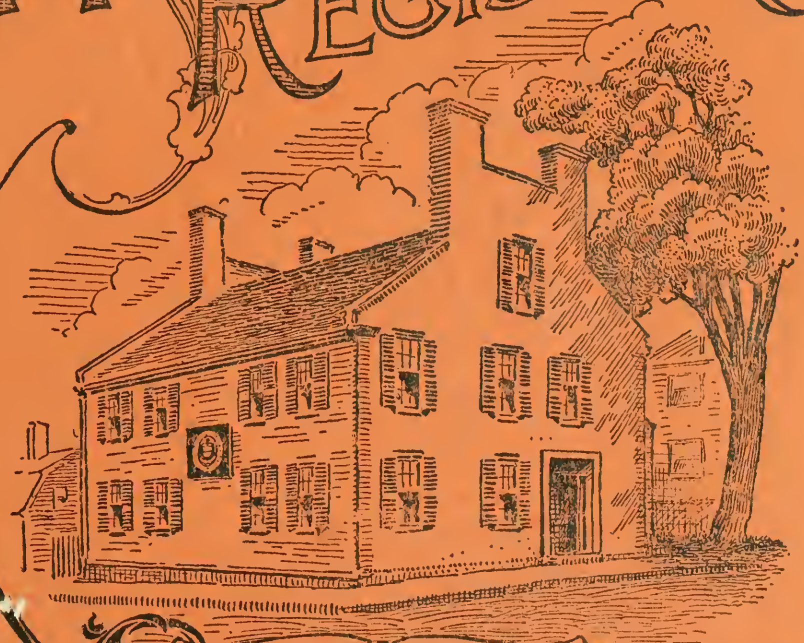

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THE SECOND CONGREGATIONAL AND MYSTIC CHURCHES.

By Charles Cummings.

[Read before the Medford Historical Society, Nov. 20, 1899.]

REV. DOCTOR OSGOOD, pastor of the First and only church then existing in Medford, died in December, 1822. Early in the following year the Rev. Andrew Bigelow became a candidate for settlement as Doctor Osgood's successor. The majority of the church were pleased with his services, and proposed his installation, which took place July 9; but a minority, recognizing that his theological views did not harmonize with their own, deemed it expedient to withdraw from that church, and form a new one. Accordingly seventeen members, in a very courteous and Christian manner, asked for letters of dismission, which, accompanied with expressions of the most tender and affectionate regard for the petitioners, and of deep regret at parting with so many valuable members, were granted.

Many others who were not members of the church withdrew from the congregation to unite with the seventeen in establishing separate worship.

To provide for the financial wants of the new enterprise, a society called "The Second Congregational Society of Medford" was organized June 22, 1823, and incorporated by legislative enactment the following February.

A hall in the neighborhood was soon fitted up as a temporary place of worship, and the pulpit was supplied by neighboring clergymen, and by students from the Theological Seminary at Andover, till October 2, when the seventeen members from the First Church, with nine members of other churches, who had removed lately to Medford, and had brought with them letters of dismission, were organized into a church by an ecclesiastical council, of which Rev. William Greenough, of Newton, was moderator, and Rev. B. B. Wisner, of Boston, was scribe.

The church adopted a name which corresponded with that of the society, but June 25, 1857, changed it to the "First Trinitarian Congregational Church of Medford." In this narrative, however, it will, for convenience, be referred to simply as the "First," or "Mother Church." The society retained its corporate name till its disbandment after the union of the First and Mystic Churches in 1874.

A Sunday-school was at once organized, its first teachers being three Congregationalists and two Baptists. A movement was also made to erect a house of worship. A spot was chosen on High street, and paid for with money given to the society by the Hon. William Gray, of Boston.

The building, having been completed, was dedicated to the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost Sept. 1, 1824; and on the same day the Rev. (since Dr.) Aaron Warner, who had been supplying their pulpit for several months, was installed pastor of the church.

AARON WARNER.

Doctor Warner was born in Northampton, Oct. 20, 1794; graduated at Williams College, 1815, and at Andover, 1819; and preached to seamen in Charleston, S.C., in 1819–23. His ministry continued here a little over eight years, till Oct. 2, 1832, when he was dismissed at his own request. In 1833 he became Professor of Sacred Rhetoric in Gilmanton (N.H.) Theological Seminary. Resigning there, he became Professor of Rhetoric in Amherst College, holding the position for nine years, and died in Amherst May 14, 1876.

His ministry in Medford was eminently successful, the church and congregation having been greatly increased.

GORDON WINSLOW.

Mr. Warner's successor was the Rev. Gordon Winslow, who was installed June 12, 1833.

Aware that a few of his people were dissatisfied with his preaching, he resigned his office Sept. 21, 1834, after a pastorate of but fifteen months.

The church assembled September 23, and, "recognizing that there were embarrassments in the path of Mr. Winslow's usefulness, voted to grant his request," and at the same time ordered the following record :

"That we respect Mr. Winslow as a man of unblemished moral, Christian, and ministerial character and cannot doubt that under other circumstances and in many parts of the Lord's vineyard he may be a useful and successful minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

The council which met on October 15 to dismiss Mr. Winslow prescribed as one of the conditions of his dismission that he should be paid one year's salary "as a just and reasonable compensation for the expenses of a settlement and of those which must result from so speedy a dismission."

The church and society did not accept the condition, and the council was again convened November 12, and decided to dismiss him unconditionally, "appealing to the sense of justice in the minds of the church and people in regard to the amount of compensation." The Society voted that he had been duly compensated for his services and refused farther payment.

LEVI PRATT.

The next pastor was the Rev. Levi Pratt, who, born in Cummington, Mass., Oct. 17, 1799, graduated at Amherst College, 1826, at Andover Seminary, 1829, preached at Hatfield, Mass., for five years, and was installed Aug. 19, 1835. He died in office, much lamented, Aug. 9, 1837.

ABIJAH R. BAKER.

Rev. (afterward Dr.) Abijah Richardson Baker, born in Franklin, Mass., Aug. 30, 1805; graduated from Amherst College, 1830, from Andover Theological Seminary, 1835; taught in Phillips Academy at Andover, 1836–37; and was ordained in Medford, April 25, 1838.

After a laborious and successful pastorate of over ten years he was dismissed by the decision of an ecclesiastical council, and commended to the churches in the usual form Sept. 20, 1848.

During his ministry there were several seasons of revival; the church and congregation increased, and larger accommodations in the house of worship became necessary.

He was an able preacher, and fed his hearers with strong meat, but, while his discourses were scholarly and spiritual, he is said not to have been over-lenient toward those parishioners whose opinions and methods of work did not accord with his own, and that sometimes invidious personalities crept into his sermons. If that were so, the fact may have had a tendency to hasten the formation of the Baptist Church, which drew somewhat from his congregation in 1842, and of the Mystic Church, which took sixty members from his fold in 1847.

He married Miss Harriet Woods, one of the refined and cultured daughters of the distinguished professor of Andover Theological Seminary. After leaving Medford she became the author of several attractive and useful books for the Sunday-school.

They had five sons, of whom one became a doctor of medicine and four became Episcopal clergymen.

Upon his dismissal from Medford Doctor Baker became an agent of the Massachusetts Sunday-School Society for one year, then preached in Lynn, 1850–56; in West Needham, 1857–63; in South Boston, 1864–66; and was afterwards without charge in Dorchester till he died there, April 30, 1876.

The church, considerably crippled by the withdrawal the previous year of so large a colony, which included four of its active deacons and several of its most liberal financial supporters, remained pastorless for about three and a half years. For one or more of those years the pulpit was ably supplied by the Rev. (afterwards Dr.) Luther H. Angier, who, though a vigorous preacher and a most genial and earnest Christian, could not so perfectly harmonize the somewhat discordant elements in the congregation as to receive a call for permanent settlement.

In 1852 a call was given to, and accepted by, the Rev. E. P. Marvin.

ELIHU P. MARVIN.

Rev. (afterwards Dr.) Elihu Parish Marvin, born in Romulus, N.Y., in March, 1819, graduated from Western Reserve College, 1842; studied theology under the guidance of different ministers, one of whom was John P. Cleveland, D.D., who was then a pastor in Detroit; preached for several years in Saline and Coldwater, Mich.; came East to improve the health of his children in 1851; and was installed in Medford Feb. 25, 1852.

His eventful pastorate extended through nearly fourteen years, and was the longest enjoyed by any Congregational minister in Medford since the decease of Doctor Osgood.

He was a faithful, whole-souled, and energetic worker, and allowed nothing to come between him and the performance of what he conceived to be his duty.

He was endowed by nature with a sound mind in a sound body, which enabled him to manage successfully several very important undertakings in which his parish became involved. The church edifice was remodelled and refitted in 1853, and again in 1860, and then supplied with an organ. Disaster, however, awaited the structure, for on September 9 of the last-named year it and all it contained was reduced to ashes. Nothing daunted, Mr. Marvin took the laboring oar and urged on the erection of a new building, which was completed and dedicated June 12, 1861. A new organ was purchased and also the bell which that year had been carried in so many a street parade during the campaign in which *Bell* and Everett were candidates for President and Vice-President of the United States. The same now hangs in the tower of the Mystic Church.

Mr. Marvin resigned his office as pastor in January, 1865, and was formally dismissed November 8 of the same year by the ecclesiastical council which installed his successor.

The degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by Dartmouth College, in 1866.

His resignation was given in order to assume the editorial and business management of the "Boston Recorder," and when that paper was consolidated with the "Congregationalist," in 1867, he joined the editorial staff of the united papers, and was also at the same time the managing editor of the "Congregational Review." Later he purchased and managed till his death a small paper called the "Daily News," in order to advance the cause of temperance, of which he was a stern advocate. He was twice married: first to Miss Elizabeth Burke, of Michigan, and second to Miss Julia A. Carleton, of Charlestown, who, with four daughters and two sons, survived him. His death occurred in Wellesley, Mass., March 11, 1874.

JAMES T. McCOLLOM.

Rev. James Tomb McCollom was born in Salem, N.Y., Sept. 20, 1814; graduated from Dartmouth College, 1835; was tutor in that college, 1837–38; graduated from Andover Theological Seminary, 1840; was pastor at Pittston, Me., 1841–44; at Great Falls, N.H., 1844–54; at Bradford, Mass., 1854–65; and was installed in Medford Nov. 8, 1865.

He was never honored with the degree of D.D., though deserving it incomparably more than many upon whom it has been conferred. He was every way fitted for his ministerial office, being genial, sympathetic, patient, liberal, scholarly, diligent, earnest, and spiritual. There was a vein of humor in his nature so marked that in college he bore the sobriquet of "Merry Mac," but his humor was always chaste and to the point.

He won the affections of all who knew him, and those who knew him best loved him most.

Farther reference will be made to him in connection with the union of his church with the Mystic in 1874.

After a successful pastorate of nine years he died in Medford, Nov. 25, 1874, the sixth and last pastor of a church which, for half a century, had stood as a beacon in this community. During its existence it had received six hundred and twenty-four members, of whom three hundred and sixty-nine were admitted by profession.

When abandoned, the church edifice was sold to the St. Joseph's Catholic Society, in March, 1876, and the avails, amounting to $8,000, were transferred to the treasury of the united societies.

By his will Mr. Frederick May, who died Sept. 13, 1875, left the Second Congregational Society a legacy of $3,000; but long and expensive litigation among the heirs prevented full payment of the same, and the society was obliged to retain its organization till 1885, in order to receive the last instalment of the $2,683 which were finally realized and passed to the credit of the new society.

MYSTIC CHURCH.

In pursuing the history of this church quotations will be freely made from the semi-centennial address delivered Oct. 24, 1897, by the Rev. Mr. Barstow, its present pastor.

Reference has been made to the unpleasant relations existing between the pastor of the Second Church and some of its members which might have intensified the desire of the latter to colonize. But there were other things that conspired to make them feel that the propitious time had arrived for the formation of a new church.

"The town was rapidly growing, and its business life developing, especially along the line of ship-building (one hundred and eighty-five ships being built in it in the ten years from 1843), and the new railroad was just then opened to the centre of the town." Then, too, the size of the congregation seemed to forebode the necessity of enlarging the church edifice in the near future if there were no separation.

"At the suggestion of Rev. Mr. Baker, the pastor, two neighboring ministers were named by him and two by Deacon James, to whom the whole matter of organizing a new church should be referred, and their advice was to be final. They met on the 29th of March and, after listening to all the *pros* and *cons*, came promptly and decidedly to the conclusion that a new church should be formed immediately.

"Separate worship was begun in the Town Hall on Sunday, May 9, 1847. The largest attendance at any of the nine services held before the church was formally organized was one hundred and eighty-four. The organization was effected July 6, 1847, seven churches and four specially invited ministers composing the council. The sermon was by the Rev. Dr. Kirk, of the Mt. Vernon Church, and the address 'constituting the church' was by the Rev. Dr. Edward Beecher of the Salem-street Church in Boston." The church consisted of sixty members.

July 29 Nathaniel Jaquith, Galen James, Jotham Stetson and John Stetson were chosen deacons. All of them had held the same office in the mother church, and the last named, who had served in that church for eight years, continued faithfully to discharge the duties of the office till his death, in 1899, in the eighty-eighth year of his age.

The Mystic Society was legally organized Aug. 13, 1847. The land on which the building now stands on Salem street was soon purchased, and a house capable of seating about five hundred persons was erected, and dedicated to the worship of God Feb. 14, 1849. The house contained seventy-three pews, whose appraised value ranged from ninety to two hundred and fifty dollars. About half of the pews were sold to individuals and the rest were held as "stock" by five persons and rented at eight per cent. of their appraised value. Two-fifths of that stock was purchased later by Mr. William Haskins and by his will donated to the society, in addition to four thousand dollars in cash, which is now invested in the parsonage.

Mr. Haskins, though not a member of the church, was deeply interested in its welfare. He died in 1871.

For many years the annual expenses of the society were met by assessing a tax upon the members of the church according to their town valuation, and by the voluntary contributions of those who were not members.

This method was discontinued after 1871, and since the union of the two churches, in 1874, the pew rental system has been employed.

On the twentieth of September, 1847, by a hearty, unanimous vote, the Rev. A. B. Warner (a nephew of the first pastor of the mother church) was called to the pastorate, at a salary of $800.

ABNER B. WARNER.

Rev. Abner Barnard Warner, born in Northampton, Mass., Jan. 8, 1814, graduated from Williams College, 1833, and from Gilmanton Theological Seminary, 1838; held a very successful pastorate in Milford, N.H., from 1839 to 1846, and, having accepted his call, was duly installed pastor of the Mystic Church Oct. 27, 1847. The sermon on that occasion was by his uncle, Rev. Professor Warner, D.D.

After a ministry eminently efficient and successful, as is manifest from the fact that the membership of the church more than doubled during his connection with it, he died, sincerely lamented, May 26, 1853.

During his long sickness the pulpit was supplied gratuitously by neighboring pastors; and after his death the society continued his salary for several months for the benefit of his wife and daughter, who survived him.

His successor was the Rev. Jacob M. Manning.

JACOB M. MANNING.

Rev. (afterwards Dr.) Jacob Merrill Manning, born in Greenwood, N.Y., Dec. 31, 1824, graduated from Amherst College, 1850, and from Andover Theological Seminary, 1853, and was ordained in Medford, Jan. 5, 1854.

He was dismissed Feb. 17, 1857, to become the associate pastor, with the Rev. Dr. Blagden, of the Old South Church, Boston, where he continued till his death, Nov. 29, 1872.

"His was indeed a most noble, useful life, devoted to his sacred calling in that one church, but reaching out and touching many other lives by his voice and pen and in whatever other ways God gave him the opportunity. One of his daughters is now the wife of Rev. G. A. Gordon, D.D., who was Dr. Manning's immediate successor in office. The strong place that he held in the hearts of his Medford people is seen by the fact that he returned to preach three different installation sermons: Mr. Hooker's in 1861, Mr. Cobb's in 1869, and Mr. Baldwin's in 1875." His memory will live on, a shining example of character, dignity, purity of life, and true worth.

Before his settlement the church had no organ, but upon his suggestion that such would be an improvement upon the stringed instruments then in use, a subscription was at once made of more than enough to secure the desired object.

ELIAS NASON.

Rev. Elias Nason, the third pastor, was born in Wrentham, Mass., April 21, 1811; graduated from Brown University in 1835; lectured in the South upon Southern flora, 1836; published the "Georgia Courier," 1837; taught an academy in Waynesborough, Ga.; taught school in Newburyport, Mass., 1840–49; was licensed to preach in 1849; was ordained and installed pastor of the Congregational Church in Natick May 5, 1852, and from thence was called to Medford and installed Nov. 10, 1858.

He published several biographies, and a gazetteer of Massachusetts, and edited a hymn book which was used for several years in the Mystic Church. He was a member of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society and of several other learned bodies.

Having received a flattering call from a church in Exeter, N.H., he resigned his office Oct. 17, 1860. The church, being unwilling to part with him, declined to accept his resignation, but united with him in calling an advisory council. That council decided that he ought to remain in Medford. He, in good faith, accepted the decree and began making plans for future work; but new overtures having been made by the Exeter Church, he, in the hope that the health of an invalid son would be greatly improved in that locality, sent to the church a second letter of resignation November 6 of the same year and was dismissed by a council November 19.

He preached in Exeter four years, and afterwards in Dracut and Lowell, Mass., and Danielsonville, Conn. He died in Billerica, Mass., in 1887. Two sons, Charles P. H. and William W., are now prominent in the ministry.

"Mr. Nason was a man of marked personality, a linguist of great fluency, a botanist of keen penetration, a genealogist of some repute, a musician, and an orator of no mean standing."

He was succeeded by the Rev. E. P. Hooker.

EDWARD P. HOOKER.

Rev. (now D.D.) Edward Pason Hooker was born in Poultney, Vt., July 2, 1834; graduated from Middlebury College, 1855, and from Andover Theological Seminary, 1861; and was ordained in Medford, Nov. 13, 1861. His pastorate continued till March 31, 1869, when he resigned through a "conviction that some locality farther removed from the sea-coast would be more friendly to his wife's health," and was dismissed by a sympathetic council.

Upon accepting his resignation the church voted the following resolution:

"That unexpected and painful as such resignation is to us, yet we can but feel most sadly the force of the one great reason which is assigned therefor; and we feel that we should not for any gratification of our own, or even for the dearer interests of our church, interpose any check to that tender and dutiful devotion which would best care for the health of one hardly less dear to us than to him. And with these convictions, and on this ground alone, so far as we are concerned, we would make as cheerful a sacrifice as we may, and hereby accept the resignation. And as we go forward with the necessary steps to perfect this action, we gladly record our feeling that a relation has been thus sundered which, in harmony and usefulness and sweet abiding memories, can come but rarely between pastor and people; and in the future of such a pastor we should be false to these memories and our faith if our wishes, efforts, or prayers were wanting to promote his still higher success or the health and happiness of one so dear to us and him."

During the Civil war Mr. Hooker was drafted for the army, but his people could not spare him, and with promptness cheerfully procured a substitute.

In the winter of 1866–67 there was a deep religious awakening in the evangelical churches of the town, Mr. McCollom of the First, Mr. Preston of the Baptist, Mr. Waite of the Methodist, and Mr. Hooker of the Mystic, with many laymen of those churches, working earnestly and unitedly together. A large increase of membership was the result, forty-four being added on confession to the Mystic Church.

Upon leaving Medford Mr. Hooker preached one year in Fairhaven, Vt., and then for ten years from 1870 was pastor of the church in Middlebury. Jan. 12, 1880, he was installed pastor of the Eliot Church in Lawrence, Mass., from which he was compelled by impaired health to resign in 1883.

Dec. 23, 1883, he began a ministry in Winter Park, Fla., and was installed there Jan. 23, 1886, and held the pastoral office till May 28, 1898. Through his untiring efforts Rollins College was founded in Winter Park in 1885. He became its first president, and held that office for seven years. He was also the president of the Florida Home Missionary Society for eleven years. From overwork in these responsible positions he was completely broken down in health and energy and compelled to seek recuperation in the most quiet way possible. He now resides in Marshfield, Mass.

SOLON COBB.

Rev. (now D.D.) Solon Cobb, the fifth pastor, was born in Carver, Mass., Sept. 12, 1838. Completing a course of study in the academy at Plympton, Mass., he took a theological course at the seminaries in Auburn, N.Y., and Andover, Mass., and was ordained pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Oswego, N.Y., Oct. 11, 1864. From that church he was called to Medford and installed Nov. 3, 1869.

His pastorate, which had been eminently successful, continued till 1874, when, without any other charge in view, he resigned it in the hope "that in a different field of labor he might exert a more decided and perhaps broader influence in the service of Christ."

His flock were unwilling to lose such a shepherd, and chose a committee to induce him, if possible, to withdraw his resignation.

That committee reported "that they could find no inducements to offer for the withdrawal of his resignation that could outweigh his decided conviction of duty to seek another and a different field of labor."

The church then, by unanimous vote, passed the following resolutions :

"That we, as a church, have received the resignation of our pastor with unaffected sorrow and regret ; and that our desire is earnest and united that he should continue his labors with us ; but feeling assured, after our best endeavors to induce him to withdraw his resignation, that he feels the act to be plainly the course of wisdom and duty for him, we do, out of respect to his choice and sense of right, reluctantly accept the same."

He was dismissed May 12, 1874, and, in their "result" the council expressed regret that, in view of the very pleasant relations existing between the pastor and his people, he should have felt constrained to resign his pastoral office ; and they advised his dismissal simply in deference to his judgment.

After leaving Medford Mr. Cobb preached two years in New Bedford, Mass., and one year in Jacksonville, Fla. In 1878 he became pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church in Erie, Pa., which he found small and worshipping in a chapel, and which, after his labor of sixteen years, he left large and worshipping in a commodious and elegant stone edifice, thus realizing his ideal as expressed in his letter of resignation to the Mystic Church.

From Erie he was called five years ago to the Point Breeze Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, Pa., where he is now (1899) laboring.

UNION OF THE FIRST TRINITARIAN AND MYSTIC CHURCHES.

For many years there had been a growing conviction among their most active members that a union of the Mystic and the First Trinitarian Congregational Churches would, under existing circumstances, much conduce to the advancement of the kingdom of Christ in Medford, and with the hope of effecting such union the Mystic Church, March 7, 1865, voted "that we desire to unite with the First Trinitarian Church if a satisfactory plan of union can be devised," and thereupon chose a committee of six to unite with a like committee, if elected, from the other church to construct such a scheme if possible. The other church acceded to the proposition and chose its committee.

That joint committee, after considering the matter in its various relations, proposed that the First Church should retain its organization and house of worship, which should be enlarged as necessity required, and that, as that church had no pastor, the Rev. Mr. Hooker, pastor of the Mystic Church, should be settled over the united organizations.

The overture of the Mystic Church was not made on account of any financial embarrassment, inasmuch as the society always had been and was then on a good financial foundation, but, as it was stated in one of the kind and fraternal letters which passed between the churches, "that the cause of truth and religion would be better promoted by the union."

At a special meeting of the First Church held March 30 the majority of those present favored the union on the terms proposed, but the minority was so large that it was deemed best to let the matter drop, and the subject was not again agitated till 1874. In the meantime a Congregational church, organized at West Medford, had drawn many valuable members from the First Church, which seemed to make it the more reasonable that but one organization of that order should exist at the centre of the town, and the resignation of Mr. Cobb made it the more probable that if the subject of union were again opened a speedy and favorable result would follow.

"The two churches had existed for twenty-seven years side by side, doing their great work always in harmony, often in fraternal union of efforts and means and with the marked blessing of God on their labors. United, it was thought they would by no means constitute an unwieldy body and might at the proper time be better prepared for church extension in any desirable direction." The time and circumstances seemed propitious for action. Accordingly, at a special meeting of the First Church, Aug. 20, 1874, action was taken of which the following is a part : "Whereas, Beyond and above all ideas of finance and economy, it is believed that the interests of Christ's kingdom would surely be advanced by a cordial union of the two churches, therefore it is Voted, That it is the earnest desire of this church that a union of the two churches should be arranged for at the earliest possible day."

A committee of five was then chosen to report their action to the Mystic Church and confer with any committee that church might choose with reference to arranging for such union.

The Mystic Church, by vote, expressed its cordial welcome of the action of its sister church and chose its committee of five.

The joint committee, after due consideration of the subject, with entire unanimity of judgment and feeling, reported a plan of union in seven articles, of which the two principal ones are the following:

"That the Rev. Mr. McCollom, the beloved and respected pastor of the First Church, should be called to the pastorate of the united church," and "That the Mystic Church edifice should be at once enlarged and made commodious and suitable by improvements for the worship of the united congregations."

With a unanimity hardly to have been anticipated, each church accepted the proposed plan, and the societies connected therewith engaged at once, by a committee, in the enlargement of the church edifice on Salem street. The private ownership of pews in that church had ceased either by gift or purchase, so that the building was entirely at the disposal of the new Society. It was enlarged at each end and on the east side and given, in its one hundred and sixty pews, a seating capacity of over seven hundred. The bell and clock taken from the house on High street were placed in its tower. The organ previously used in the Mystic Church was removed from the front gallery, enlarged, and located in in its present position, behind the pulpit, and the organ of the First Church was given in part payment of the sixteen hundred dollars which the enlargement cost. The entire expense of the improvements was over $20,000. A rededication took place Jan. 12, 1876, previous to which the church had worshipped in the edifice on High street.

The formal union of the churches occurred Dec. 31, 1874, when one hundred and eighteen from the First, one hundred and ninety-two from the Mystic, and others, on confession or by letter, made a total membership of three hundred and eighteen. Several months earlier the dear man who, by the vote of each church, was to have become their pastor when united was stricken with disease and obeyed the call to come up higher, on November 25, at the age of sixty years.

Feb. 9, 1875, the following tribute was ordered to be spread upon the church records:

"That we recognize in this death of our pastor and friend the blended truth so grand and yet so sad, that a wise and good man has passed away; and as a religious body and as individual members of the church we would make this as a more permanent record than has yet been permitted us of our grateful and loving appreciation of his worth and work, and of the public and private bereavement that has come to us in his death; and we would make it as the sincere and historical tribute of our hearts to a character that we feel was pure and true, and to services that we know were faithful and acceptable. In mingled sadness and thanksgiving we say, 'Servant of the Lord, well done!' As the long-tried pastor of those of us who have been of his immediate flock, and as the dearly esteemed and religious friend and teacher of us all, he has in fidelity proved his mission, and established his memory and work in our hearts; and with our entire community we mourn what seems to us the untimely loss of a valued citizen, an able minister of Christ, and so a most useful man. But in the faith which he cherished so long and clearly, we can also rejoice in the belief that our loss is his gain; and in that faith we would feel his new entreaties from the better land to come up higher, and that we can leave *our* and *his* church to the guidance of the Great Shepherd who 'doeth all things well,' and that we should 'keep on praying' that such faith may enable us, as we believe it has him,

"'To pass through Glory's morning gate
And walk in Paradise.'"

In April a call was extended to the Rev. Charles H. Baldwin.

CHARLES H. BALDWIN.

Rev. (now D.D.) Charles Hume Baldwin was born in Windsor, Mass., March 11, 1838; graduated from Williams College, 1863, and from Union Theological Seminary, 1866; spent one year in special study; was ordained and settled over the Second Presbyterian Church in Peekskill, N.Y., April 30, 1867; was settled in 1869 over the Presbyterian Church in Johnstown, N.Y., one of the oldest and most important in the presbytery of Albany; four years later accepted a call to the Euclid-avenue Presbyterian Church in Cleveland, Ohio, where he labored for ten months, when his failing health compelled him to resign.

In 1874 he married Miss Elizabeth C. McMartin, of Johnstown, and for a bridal trip spent a year in European travel. On his return he accepted a unanimous call to settle over the newly-constituted church at a salary of $3,000 (five hundred of which he voluntarily relinquished after four years of service), and was installed June 30, 1875.

Admirably adapted to meet the peculiar condition of the church, he was eminently successful in his work.

Feb. 1, 1881, he tendered his resignation, and the church by unanimous vote ordered the following record to be made:

" Resolved, That in accepting the resignation of the Rev. Charles H. Baldwin, after a pastorate of nearly six years, we do it with profound regret and with a clear conviction that we are to lose a most active, discreet, and affectionate pastor; a most earnest, faithful, and efficient preacher; a most genial and sympathetic friend; and a citizen most philanthropic and valuable."

He was dismissed February 21, and a week later was installed over a large Presbyterian church in Amsterdam, N.Y., where he labored for the next seventeen years, till an affection of the throat demanded for him a change of climate. From Amsterdam he went to Des Moines, where in one year he put new life into a small church which seemed almost ready to die, and placed it upon a firm foundation. Thus ended his thirty-two years in the ministry, and, excepting the year spent in Europe, he had been in constant service, having preached every farewell one Sabbath evening and his opening sermon to the new people the following Sabbath morning.[1]

He was succeeded by the Rev. T. P. Sawin.

T. P. SAWIN.

Rev. (now D.D.) Theophilus Parsons Sawin, the seventh pastor, a son of Rev. T. P. Sawin, Sr., was born in Lynn, Mass., Jan. 14, 1841; was a member of the class of 1864 in Yale University, and was professor of Latin and mathematics in the Milwaukee Academy from 1865 to 1871, and at the same time was engaged to some extent in journalistic work. His professional education was wholly private. He was ordained at Racine, Wis., Dec. 1, 1871, and preached in the Congregational Church there for four years; then was called to the Congregational Church in Janesville, Wis., where he preached till he came to Medford.

During his pastorate in Janesville, being much interested in education, he was, by State appointment, made a visitor to the Normal School at Whitewater and a lecturer before the Teachers' Associations.

He was installed in Medford Nov. 16, 1881, and dismissed May 12, 1886, to assume the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church in Troy, N.Y., where he has most successfully labored to the present time.

By a unanimous vote of the church the following record was made April 27, upon the receipt of his letter of resignation: "Though extremely reluctant to part with a pastor who has been so successful among us and is so highly esteemed by all his flock, we yet recognize the importance of the position to which he has been called, and therefore, though with sincere regret, accept his resignation."

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[1] Rev. Charles H. Baldwin, D.D., died at Beaman, Iowa, Nov. 26th, 1899.

Rev. James L. Hill was his successor.

JAMES L. HILL.

Rev. James Langdon Hill, D.D., a son of Rev. James J. Hill, one of the eleven who, upon graduating from Andover Theological Seminary in 1843, went to Iowa to establish Congregationalism in that new and distant territory, was born in Garnavillo, Iowa, March 14, 1848.

He graduated from Iowa College in 1871 and from Andover Theological Seminary in 1875. Sept. 15, 1875, he was ordained and installed as pastor of the North Church, in Lynn, Mass. From that church he was called to Medford, and installed Jan. 12, 1887.

After a pastorate of more than seven years he read his letter of resignation March 4, 1894, and a special meeting of the church was called to act upon it March 13. At that meeting remarks were made by the officers of the church, and many others, all expressive of their exceedingly pleasant and tender relations with the pastor, their kind and pleasant remembrance of his work for our church and in our city, and their sincere regret that a termination of his active personal labors here was proposed.

Upon accepting his resignation the church voted unanimously as follows :

"That this church has heard with great regret our pastor's letter of resignation and desires to place on record its appreciation of his pure Christian character, his consistent life and faithful teachings, and his devotion and loyalty in the service of this church."

A council representing seventeen churches was convened April 25, and, having reviewed the action of pastor and people, voted to dismiss him. In their "result," the following is embodied :

"The council expresses its high appreciation of the courteous and Christian conduct of both pastor and people in this conference, one with the other, and the integrity and simplicity of motive leading to the severance of the sacred relation of pastor and people.

"The council also recognizes those happy and sterling qualities of mind and heart which have made Brother Hill's ministry so earnest and fruitful in the training and efficiency of his own church in this growing city, also those generous traits of sympathy and enthusiasm which he has ever manifested in the work of the churches of our Woburn conference, and especially those large gifts of devotion and loyalty to the Master and his great work, which we feel sure will still enrich the churches in the wider fields of Christian consecration to which he may be called."

Upon leaving Medford Dr. Hill retired to the city of Salem, and devoted his entire energy to literary work.

JOHN BARSTOW.

Rev. John Barstow, a son of Rev. E. H. Barstow, was born in Newton Centre, Mass., Feb. 16, 1857; graduated from Dartmouth College, 1883; spent two years in Hartford Thelogical Seminary, then one year in foreign travel, and graduated from Andover, 1887; was ordained in Groton, Mass., June 29, 1887; was installed in Glastonbury, Conn., Nov. 19, 1889; and from that church was called to Medford and installed Jan. 2, 1895.

During his pastorate of less than five years the church has received one hundred and sixty-six members, a larger number than the admissions under any other pastor.

Including the sixty charter members, and the one hundred and eighteen received from the First Church, the total membership to the present time (Nov. 6,

1899) has been one thousand and twenty-six (1,026), of which four hundred and thirty-four (434) have been received on their confession of faith.

The present membership is four hundred and forty-seven (447).

It is fitting that in closing this narrative brief reference should be made to one layman whom both churches have been especially delighted to honor. The name of Deacon Galen James heads the list of charter members in each of the two colonies. In many ways he was a wonderful man. One of his leading attributes was his practical common sense. His convictions were intensely strong and his persistence in acting upon them was phenomenal. Whether convinced that the town ought to have a high school, or that the Congregationalists ought to have a better newspaper to speak for the denomination, or that a new church should be organized, he allowed no obstacle to block his way to the realization of his conviction. Had he been a mere worldling he would have been a menace to society, but, being thoroughly consecrated in heart, head, and *purse*, he was eminently qualified for leadership. He was born in 1790 and died in 1879.

THE HIGHWAY OR CANAL THROUGH LABOR IN VAIN POINT.

By John H. Hooper.

THE first great highway connecting the settlement at Mistick with the other settlements on Massachusetts bay was the Mistick river. After the building of Mistick bridge, no other bridge spanned its waters so as to interfere with its free navigation until the building of Malden bridge, which was opened to public travel Sept. 29, 1787. Governor Cradock's interests in trading and fishing, and, after his death and the sale of his estate, the growing commerce of the town, required many boats or lighters on the river, and the management of these boats or lighters gave employment to a hardy class of men called boatmen or lightermen. The navigation of the Mistick river with this class of vessels was no easy task. With sails, oars, poles, and the tow-line, assisted by the incoming and outgoing tide, did those hardworking men pursue their arduous employment. The tortuous channel of the river winding through the marshes sometimes caused a journey of nearly half a mile, when in a straight line the distance to be travelled was only a few rods. One particular curve in the river, near the foot of Foster court, by reason of the difficulties of its navigation was called Labor in Vain point. For one hundred and thirty-one years several generations of boatmen labored almost in vain round this point.

The first successful attempt at straightening the river, and to remedy this obstruction to navigation, was made in the year 1761, when a number of the inhabitants of Medford petitioned the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for a new highway across a point of salt marsh and flats in Medford called Labor in Vain point. The court appointed a committee to view the premises, and to report upon the necessity and convenience of the proposed highway.

The committee reported that a highway at the place above mentioned was both necessary and convenient, and the court thereupon appointed a new committee to lay out the way and to estimate the damage that might accrue to any person or persons in their property by the laying out of said way.

April 21, 1761, the committee reported as follows :

"We the subscribers have viewed and laid out the highway therein set forth, with as much convenience to the public and with as little prejudice to private property as (in our judgment) can be, which highway is bounded westerly by the dividing line between Col. Isaac Royall and Samuel Brooks, Esq., and easterly by the stakes set up in the aforesaid Samuel's marsh, as the same now stand, leaving two rods between the last-mentioned stakes and the channel proposed to be cut through the aforesaid marsh. And are of the opinton that the damage that accrues to the said Samuel Brooks, Esq., by laying out the aforesaid highway is thirty-three pounds six shillings and eight pence."

The way was laid out twelve rods wide, and the town paid Samuel Brooks the amount of the award. This return of the committee was accepted by the court, and it was ordered to be recorded, so that the same might be known and used as a public highway.

This laying out of the highway was not satisfactory to the town of Medford, for at a meeting of the court, held Dec. 8, 1761, the Selectmen petitioned that the width of the way be reduced to six rods, and that the remainder of the old way be discontinued. The court appointed a committee to inquire into the expediency of making the change. The committee, after due examination of the premises, reported in favor of the petitioners; the court accepted the report and ordered that the width of the way be reduced to six rods, and that the remainder of the old way be discontinued. This action of the court was anticipated by the town, for at a meeting held May 13, 1761, a committee was appointed "to cut a canal through Labor in Vain point, the work to be done by subscription; and authorized them when the canal was cut, to sell and convey such part of the marsh which the town paid Samuel Brooks, Esq., for, as should be more than sufficient for a highway across Labor in Vain point." The committee proceeded to cut the canal, and Dec. 14, 1761, only six days after the court had reduced the width of the highway, sold to Isaac Royall, for the sum of thirteen pounds six shillings and eight pence, that part of the old way that had been discontinued, "*together with all the mud and turf thrown and now laying on said marsh.*" Samuel Brooks quitclaimed to Isaac Royall

all his right, title, and interest in and to the above-named piece of marsh.

It is possible that the canal was not cut to its present depth at that time, but that the action of the tides may have rendered very material assistance to the undertaking.

THE BOSTON MASSACRE.

THE "Boston Gazette and Country Journal" of March 12, 1770, in a list of those killed and wounded upon March 5th, mentions "a lad named John Clark about 17 years of age, whose parents live at Medford, and an apprentice to Capt. Samuel Howard of this town; wounded, a ball entered just about his groin and came out at his hip, on the opposite side, apprehended he will die."

By the records in the City Clerk's office, this John Clark appears to have been the son of John and Mary (Smith) Clark, born in Medford, June 10, 1752, and baptized by the Rev. Ebenezer Turell on June 14th of the same year. He died in Medford on the 26th of May, 1778.

L. L. D.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY.

Number previously reported	256
Rev. Charles W. Loomis	1
	257
Honorary Members.	
Hon. T. S. Harlow, M. E. Chandler, Charles Cummings	3
	260
Deaths, 4; dropped, 3; withdrawals, 7	14
	246

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Officers

For Year ending March, 1901.

President.

JOHN H. HOOPER.

Vice-Presidents.

LORIN L. DAME,
WILLIAM CUSHING WAIT,
ROSEWELL B. LAWRENCE,
CHARLES H. LOOMIS.

Recording Secretary.

JESSIE M. DINSMORE.

Corresponding Secretary.

WALTER H. CUSHING.

Treasurer.

BENJAMIN F. FENTON.

Librarian and Curator.

AGNES W. LINCOLN.

Standing Committees.

Membership.

Rosewell B. Lawrence,
David H. Brown,
Ellen M. Gill,
Miss J. M. Dinsmore,
~~Wilton B. Fay,~~
Geo. S. T. Fuller.

Publication.

Charles H. Morss,
Ch. Charles H. Loomis,
L. L. Dame,
Walter H. Cushing,
Miss Helen T. Wild.

Papers and Addresses.

David H. Brown,
John Ward Dean,
John H. Hooper,
Dr. R. J. P. Goodwin,
Miss Agnes W. Lincoln,
William C. Wait.

Historic Sites.

L. L. Dame,
L. J. Manning,
Miss Hetty F. Wait,
Miss Ella L. Burbank,
Mrs. J. M. G. Plummer,
~~Warren M. Archibald.~~ Eddy

Genealogy.

Miss Helen T. Wild,
Miss Ella S. Hinckley,
Miss Hetty F. Wait,
Miss Eliza M. Gill,
W. I. Parker, Ch
David H. Brown,
Gilbert Hodges,
Fred. H. Kidder.

Heraldry.

Benjamin P. Hollis,
~~W. H. Whitmore,~~ D
Fred. H. C. Woolley,
William F. Kingman,
Charles B. Dunham,
Dr. James Hedenberg.

Library and Collections.

Miss Agnes W. Lincoln,
Abijah Thompson,
5 Benjamin F. Fenton,
2 Miss Mary E. Sargent,
Geo. S. Delano,
3 William C. Wait,
4 F. A. Wait,
Miss Ella A. Leighton,
Miss Katharine H. Stone.

Photographs.

W. C. Eddy,
John H. Hooper,
R. J. P. Goodwin.

A BUSINESS MAN OF LONG AGO.

By Helen T. Wild.

[Read before the Medford Historical Society, Jan. 15, 1900.]

IN 1662 Widow Mary Hall united with the church at Cambridge, Mass., and received land grants in that town.

Her son John bought lands in Medford in 1675, and the family has been represented there ever since.

The first mention of Hall on the Town Records is on page 1 of volume 1, dated 1678: "Goodman Hall, Jr., by money (for ammunition) 0–05–0."

Goodman John Hall was chosen Constable in February, 1677, and the same year was elected Selectman.

Jan. 17, 1684, the first tax list on record has John Hall's name in the third place — Jonathan and Nathaniel Wade preceding him. In those days the leading men stood at the head of the list. Alphabetical order was never thought of.

In 1677 John Hall, Jr., took the oath of fidelity.

In 1687 his name appears on the tax list for the first time, being number twelve in a list of thirty-two.

The first John Hall died in 1701. In 1718 his son appears on the records as Mr. He held the title till his death. In 1724 the third John, as the head of the family, inherited the title. He was a distiller and was a pioneer in making Medford rum.

His younger brother, Andrew, born in 1698, was the father of Benjamin Hall.

Very early in life Andrew Hall developed a liking for land speculation. In 1721, when he was only twenty-three, we find records of his investments.

By 1740 he had acquired a great deal of land, which has stood in the family name till recent years.

In 1735 John Hall sold his still-house and the land whereon it stood "with all Rights Titles priviledges proffits and advantages water and water Springs and Heredittaments Thereof with All Appurtenances Thereunto belonging and all That is Thereon Standing and Growing and all that Ever Shall Grow Thereon"[1] to his brother Andrew Hall, trader.

In another deed, dated 1739, Andrew Hall is called "Boatman." He held the two titles because he was interested in trading with inland farmers, carrying their produce down river by boats or lighters, and returning with goods from ships arriving in Boston from foreign ports.

He died in 1750. He left five sons, Andrew, Benjamin, Richard, Isaac, and Ebenezer. All were prominent in Medford except Andrew, who settled in Boston in early life.

Benjamin Hall became a leading spirit in the business and civil affairs of the town.

The secret of his success is found in his own account of his life, which comes to us in his own handwriting. "When My Father Died I was a Little Over 19 Years of Age. I then began to Trade for Myself. I allways Made it my Rule to Comply with All My Engagements whether they were in My Favour or Not. I First Lett My Self to my Brother Andrew as Foreman of My Father's Distill House which he Hired of one Year and a Half, for which he gave me Eighty Pounds Lawfull Money.

"After that I Hired itt for Eighteen Months which time on[e] Timothy Fitch was in Partnership with me soon after that the administrator of my Father's Estate sold itt at Vendue I purchased itt and Carried the same on for Fifty on[e] Years and then Quitted business."

He was also interested in other commercial ventures. He and his brother Ebenezer carried on a slaughtering establishment where about fourteen hundred head of cattle were killed every year.

The old building on the north bank of the Mystic where this work was done was standing until recent years.

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[1] The only punctuation-mark in the whole deed is one hyphen, written =, and placed at the beginning instead of end of the line.

The hides were delivered to Ebenezer, who was a tanner; the tallow to Benjamin, who made it into candles. The beef was readily disposed of to the inhabitants of the town and the traders and farmers who made Medford a rendezvous.

Until 1754 all the lands south of Mystic river and a large tract northwest of the village belonged to Charlestown.

The village on both sides of the river was called Mystic for convenience, but Medford was only a strip of land one mile wide by three in length, on the north bank.

On petition of the citizens of Medford, many of whom owned lands in the territory of Charlestown, Medford's boundaries were established by the General Court nearly as at present.

The most important change made since then was the setting off of a tract of land including what is known as "Symmes Corner," when Winchester was incorporated.

From 1754 to 1805 Medford was in the height of its prosperity as a commercial town.

In colonial times Cradock bridge, in Medford, was the only one connecting Boston with the country on the north. A ferry between Charlestown and Boston accommodated travellers, but no heavy merchandise was transported by it.

Goods arriving at Medford by teams from inland towns were transferred to Hall's lighters, and "boated" down the river.

Benjamin Hall was certainly a monopolist, though the term was not common in his day.

The manufacture of rum necessitated barrels. A cooper's shop was the result. So, in the prime of life, Captain Hall, as he was called, was a distiller, a tallow chandler, a cooper, a "boatman," and a general trader.

Goods of all kinds, from thread lace to Russia iron, could be bought in Medford as cheaply as in Boston. There was only one store in the vicinity which approached Mr. Hall's in amount of business.

An inventory dated 1793 shows the variety of his stock :

" 49 bbls of Pearlash.
7760 lb. Butter.
48 casks flaxseed
150 hard hogsheads on four hoops.
17^{m} hogsheads staves.
270 bbls. of beef.
102 bbls of pork.
800 hogsheads of lard.
285 gallons of wine.
138 gallons brandy.
1900 lb. Bohea tea.
2236 lb. Loaf Sugar.
310 rum barrels.
18^{m}. 20 d Nails.
471 lb. cotton wool.
2 boxes 100 ft. each 10 x 8 glass.
500 lb. salt petre.
220 lb. alspice.
371 gal. N.E. rum.
13 tons Russia iron.
2160 lb. German steel.
1500 lb. coffee.
70 hogsheads of salt.
15^{m} boards.
4542 gal. Molasses.
2090 gal. N.E. rum.
114 cords wood."

The valuation of his stock in trade was £5,389 1s. 10d. In 1752 Benjamin Hall married Hepzibah Jones, of Concord, Mass. While serving on jury in that town he stopped at Major Jones's house. According to the custom of the time, the daughters of the house served the guests. Mr. Hall became very much pleased with Miss Hepzibah, and was more interested in *paying* than in *attending* court. At the end of his stay in Concord he asked the major for his daughter's hand. "I do not know you, young man," was the answer, "but I will inquire about you, and if you hear nothing from me in two weeks, you may come back."

The two weeks passed with no message, and at the end young Hall promptly appeared, and was accepted. Two of his brothers, Richard and Ebenezer, followed his example, and took a bride from the Jones homestead.

All through the period of the Revolution, Benjamin Hall served as a Selectman in Medford — most of the time as chairman. He retired in 1785. At the March town meeting of that year it was "Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be given him for his long service in that station." In those days town officers received no salary.

He was made permanent moderator of town meeting in 1767, succeeding Col. Isaac Royall. The Tory affiliations of the latter were too well known to allow him to preside over assemblies which passed resolutions against the government.

Mr. Hall, who was a monopolist in civil as well as business affairs, was chosen representative to the General Court in 1770, succeeding Hon. Stephen Hall, and served until 1772. In 1774 he was made a member of the Provincial Congress and served until 1778.

When the tea ships came to Boston with their unwelcome freight, all the towns of the province were notified and took action. The town meeting held in Medford, Dec. 7, 1773, appointed Benjamin Hall chairman of a committee to draw up resolutions. They reported December 16, the day of the Boston Tea Party.

All the resolutions passed by the town of Medford previous to the Revolution were more conservative than those of many other towns. The leaders of the town belonged to the class which contained many Tories, and while they themselves were patriots, their intimate acquaintance with many who took the side of the king tempered their utterances.

Colonel Royall was much beloved by many of his townsmen, who knew his best qualities, his ever ready hospitality and generosity. Had he been of the sturdy stock of his friends, his fears would not have overcome his love for his adopted country. If the people of Medford had not grasped the idea of independence in 1773, neither had the leaders of the nation. The love of the colonists for the home land of their fathers died hard.

Sept. 25, 1774, Benjamin Hall was elected to attend the session of the General Court appointed by the governor for October 5. Although Gage countermanded his order, the colonists did not recognize his right to do so, and ninety men met on the appointed day. As no one appeared to administer oaths, they formed themselves into a Provincial Congress and adjourned to Concord. At the adjourned meeting, the Medford member was chosen one of the Committee of Supplies.

His business capacity and his large acquaintance with traders in and out of the province made it possible for him to collect large quantities of goods in his warehouses without arousing suspicion.

The commodities in which he dealt were just what the colonies needed in preparing for the impending struggle. Although he was obliged by ill health to withdraw from the committee in February, 1775, his account books show that he continued to act as its agent.

The warehouses on the Mystic river were a depot of supplies throughout the war. Powder in large quantities was collected there and "boated" to the Castle or to Boston when needed.

In 1779 and 1780 sixteen tons of cannon balls were stored by Mr. Hall for eighteen months.

Large quantities of beef were packed by him in barrels made on the premises, and shipped in his lighters, for the use of the army.

In those days the soldiers considered rum as necessary as meat, and we infer that Medford contributed her share in supplying their demands.

In 1780 General Heath wrote, "Last night an alarming account from West Point of the scantiness of provisions and rum at that post." It seems to be with a feeling of relief that he continues, "A quantity of the latter is on the road to Springfield."

In the third Provincial Congress Mr. Hall was chosen one of a committee to encourage the manufacture of saltpetre, and the next month was one of those appointed to countersign and number a new emission of continental bills, and also "to superintend the impression of said bills."

The Board of Selectmen of Medford acted as the Committee of Safety during the first years of the war.

When the town was overrun by refugees from Boston and Charlestown Mr. Hall's hands were full trying to supply necessaries, and to send such families as he could to places of safety in the surrounding towns.

Among those whom the war drove out of Charlestown was a boy named Joseph Manning. Mr. Hall became much interested in him and took him into his employ. When Manning reached manhood his benefactor turned over to him and Benjamin Hall, Jr., a part of his varied business, and they formed the firm of Hall and Manning. They acquired property, and now representatives of the Manning family carry on the business, which is the outgrowth of the original firm of Hall and Manning, within a stone's throw of the spot where their ancestor began his business career.

Benjamin Hall's love for humanity was not confined to his countrymen. One night during the siege of Boston an English officer came out of Boston, disguised, to visit a sick friend.

He was recognized and pursued. Having had some acquaintance with Mr. Hall before hostilities began, he went to his house for refuge. His inquiry for the master of the house was answered by the intelligence that he was with the Committee of Safety in session within. The officer's heart sank, but he asked to see Mr. Hall in the entry. He told his story. There was no doubt of its truth. What should the patriot do? Should he open the parlor door and hand the Englishman over as a spy to the committee, or, for humanity's sake, protect an innocent man fleeing for his life? After a moment's thought he said, "Follow me," and leading the trembling officer to the garret, hid him away under the eaves until danger was over.

When English and Hessian officers were on parole in Medford, after Burgoyne's surrender, Mr. Hall received them as guests; but these acts of courtesy never caused any diminution in the confidence of his townsmen.

When the war began the town, which had suffered greatly by the enforcement of the Boston Port Bill, could hardly raise money enough for ordinary expenses. Bounty for the soldiers was not forthcoming except by loans.

Benjamin Hall was not niggardly at this time.

When men were called for to go to the relief of the army in Canada, in July, 1776, he was one of three who loaned the town money to pay bounty. When the amount borrowed did not prove enough, he added eleven pounds more as his share of extra bounty advanced by some seventy citizens. The next year he loaned £200 and the next £100.

The outlook for receiving either principal or interest was not encouraging. In looking over the town accounts one notices the patriotism of the town officers, who were generous with their loans but slow in pressing their claims for payment.

Beside the lighters on the river, Mr. Hall owned sloops which were engaged in coastwise and West Indian trade.

In 1803 he was a claimant against the British government for damages caused by the capture of the sloop "Charles," Samuel Brooks, master, which was condemned in a Vice Admiralty Court in the West Indies in 1793.

Beside being a ship-owner, he was interested in other marine affairs. He assisted in fitting out privateers during the Revolution.

In 1784 Mr. Hall said, "When the war began I would not have exchanged property with any man in the country, but now I am worth nothing."

His landed property remained, and when the war was over it furnished his capital as he manfully set to work to repair his fortunes.

Mrs. Hall died in 1790. In 1791 Mr. Hall married widow Mary Green, of Boston. The marriage contract made between them and Joseph Barrel, Esq., of Boston, "of the third part," is very quaint.

It provides that "In consideration of five shillings to the said Benjamin paid by the said Joseph the receipt whereof the said Benjamin doth hereby acknowledge, he the said Benjamin doth hereby grant, bargain sell convey and confirm unto the said Joseph the mansion house of the said Benjamin with the land, garden and buildings thereunto belonging all situate and lying in Medford aforesaid on the north side of the road leading from the bridge to Medford meeting-house, and all the household goods, implements and utensils which now are of and belonging to the Mansion House aforesaid, to have and to hold to the said Joseph, his executors and assigns in trust, to permit the said Benjamin during his life to use and enjoy the same and from and after his decease in trust to permit the said Mary during her remaining the widow of said Benjamin to use and enjoy the same." . . . "And he further covenants with the said Mary that in case she survives him, she shall have, occupy and improve to her own use all the liquors wines and provisions of every kind that at the time of his decease shall be within the mansion-house aforesaid, and shall and may use occupy and improve after his decease and during her natural life, one third part of his pew number twenty-six in the Meeting House aforesaid. And the said Mary in consideration of the foregoing settlement[1] covenants and provisions, hereby releases all her rights of dower and thirds in the estate of said Benjamin."

Mr. Hall's mansion was on what is now High street. It was removed some years ago to make way for a new street which runs directly through the space occupied by the garden, and continues to Middlesex Fells. The house was two stories high, with a gambrel roof, and faced the south, with large square rooms on either side of the front entry. Back of the " east parlor " was Mr. Hall's "counting-room," in which he transacted business after giving up active commercial life.

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[1] This included a yearly allowance of money, if she survived her husband.

In the house could be found the heavy mahogany furniture, the brass fire-sets, the warming-pans, the rose blankets, the woolen coverlets, which, with stores of spotless linen, were the housekeeper's pride in those days. The solid silver tankards, the cream pot, the butter boats and porringers, the tiny teaspoons and sugar-tongs, would make a modern collector envious.

The house stood very near the street, but back of it, screened from the public gaze, was a beautiful garden containing nearly two acres of land.

It was laid out in terraces on the southern slope of Pasture hill. The plots were bordered with box, and contained vegetables, fruit, and flowers in profusion. At the highest point was a garden house,[1] from which a beautiful view and pure air were assured even in the warmest weather. This garden was jealously guarded by its owner. A contract made with a gardener after Mr. Hall's death concludes as follows:

"Also that he shall not admit any person into the Garden without the consent of Mrs. Hall. The roses are all for Mrs. Hall."

Mr. Hall's brother Richard, " Hatter Hall " as he was called, lived in the next house west, which is still standing on the westerly corner of Governor's avenue. Mr. Hall's own house was known after the death of Mrs. Hall as the Dr. Swan House.

Benjamin Hall was always interested in any improvement which would benefit his native town, and proportionately jealous of anything which would detract from it.

He was an earnest remonstrant against building

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[1] Near the site of the Medford Club House.

Malden and Chelsea bridges. The construction of Charlestown bridge had previously damaged the river transportation which had been Medford's pride.

The town was much excited over the project of a bridge at "Penny Ferry" (Malden), and harsh words were said about the Charlestown people who favored it. Even the Rev. David Osgood[1] was moved to indignation, and voiced the sentiments of his townsmen in a letter to a friend in Charlestown.

He wrote, "Almost ever since I saw you I have been so agitated about that execrable bridge at Penny Ferry, that law and divinity have both been obliged to stand whilst I have rallied all my powers to fight the bridge builders. . . . I do think it unpardonable in . . . the . . . inhabitants of Charlestown who are abettors in this business.

"After the danger and terror they were all in from the apprehension of a bridge at Lechmere Point . . . so immediately to turn upon us and appear so zealous for the *destruction* of *Medford*, is a conduct so base and ungenerous as nothing can palliate.

"I shall be tempted when I preach again to take *total depravity* for my subject, though that be a doctrine of which I had begun to doubt till I had this recent proof of it." Referring to a letter which he had written for circulation in the General Court, the Doctor says: "If the facts which I have produced do not carry conviction . . . I shall think that all the world is mad, and that I and my people, with the few who have hitherto joined us, remain the only sober and rational part of this creation."

It was a sad blow to Dr. Osgood, Mr. Hall, and others that Maj. Samuel Swan, their personal friend and a resident of Medford during the Revolution, should have been one of the chief advocates of this bridge. He always boasted that his chaise was the first to cross the bridge when it was open to travel.

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[1] Minister of the church at Medford.

Major Swan subsequently left Charlestown and made Medford his permanent home. He died there in 1825.

Chelsea bridge was built in 1801. The Selectmen of Medford, Benjamin Hall, and John Brooks[1] were a committee who vainly opposed it.

Mr. Hall was zealous in prosecuting the building of Middlesex Canal, but was not in favor of extending it to Boston. He wrote, "In 1792 there was a petition preferred the General Court for liberty to make a Canal from Merrimack River into Medford River the Petitioners were Chiefly Inhabitants of Medford. When the Corporation Act Past there were twelve Person named in Said Act Eight of which was of Medford a Committee was appointed by the Corporation to Purchase Land in Chelmsford, Billerica & Wobourn and Stake Out the Same. One half of said Committee were allso of Medford and spent Many Days About itt att there Own Expense. . . . Itt is Very Evident that itt was not the Design of the Corporation to go Any further than Medford when the Corp. Act Past. as itt then Fixt the tol to Medford Bridge . . . itt is Presumed that the Corporation has not Fullfill'd there Part of the Act Untill they have Lockt the same in Medford River. . . . there may be Sufficiency of water to go into Medford River by Locks and not Enough to Proceede to Charlestown for these two years Past there has Not been water sufficient in the Canal After July Untill October and what has been we May Expect will take Place Again Sooner or later. itt is a Very great Misfortune for the Proprictors that they Proceded Any further than Medford before the Land was Purchased they Intended to have made use of."

To connect the canal with "Medford River," as Mr. Hall calls it, he was the prime mover in building a "Branch Canal" in 1807. This was mostly used in carrying ship timber to the various shipyards of Medford. It left the main canal at Mystic avenue. Benjamin, Ebenezer, and Dudley Hall[1] were the directors. In two years (1807 to 1809) $256.98 were received for tolls. Jonathan Warner and John Jaquith were the keepers of the locks. The first dividend was declared in February, 1809,—four dollars on a share of one hundred dollars.

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[1] Governor of Massachusetts.

In 1803 Benjamin Hall, John Brooks, Fitch Hall, Ebenezer Hall, 2d, and Samuel Buell[2] were the petitioners to the Legislature to form the Medford Turnpike Association. This road was built east of Winter and Ploughed hills and presented a shorter route to Boston than the old road over Winter hill. The road was built and proved a great convenience to teamsters. It remained a turnpike until 1867, when it was laid out as a county road. Few old residents of Medford, to this day, call it by its modern name, "Mystic avenue." It is the "Turnpike" to them and their children. When Col. Isaac Royall fled from Medford his estates were left in charge of Dr. Simon Tufts, the worthy physician of the town, who carefully rendered to the government all income arising from them. But in 1778 the whole property was confiscated. Probably through influence of his friends in Medford, who testified that his opposition to the government had never been active, the property was kept together, and at about the beginning of this century it was restored to the Royall family.

In 1804 Robert Fletcher, of Amherst, N.H., Samuel Dexter, of Roxbury, and Fitch Hall, son of Benjamin Hall, negotiated to purchase the Royall estate in Medford and Foxborough.

Before the sale was completed Robert Fletcher withdrew from the syndicate, assigning his share to Samuel Dexter and William H. Sumner.

Fitch Hall sold his share (one-third) to "Benjamin Hall of Medford, Esquire, Ebenezer Hall of the same place,

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[1] Son of Benjamin Hall, Jr.

[2] First postmaster of Medford.

Tanner, and Benjamin Hall junior of the same place, Merchant," for $24,000. The estate in Medford then consisted of "about five hundred twenty acres on the west side of Mystic River, about fifty acres north of the Great Brick Yard, and a Pew in the Meeting House in Medford."

Bills of exchange were sent to London Oct. 21, 1805, and the deeds were passed from Henry Hutton and Elizabeth Royall Hutton to the "Proprietors of Royallville." The next year Benjamin Hall, Sr., bought out the other Medford gentlemen and owned one-third of the estate.

The Mansion House, gardens, and outbuildings were sold to William Welch for $13,000.

In 1808 the proprietors divided up the land. Much valuable property in the very heart of the town of Medford became the property of Mr. Hall, also pasture, marsh, and woodland.

One piece of land consisted of a block bounded by Main street, Swan street, and the river, except a lot sold to Nathan Wait by the syndicate, now occupied by his descendants, a lot owned by the heirs of James Tufts, still in possession of the family, and a small lot owned by John Bishop. The Admiral Vernon tavern stood on the southwest corner of this block.

The wood lot "back of the great brick yard,"[1] containing forty acres, was sold for $447 to Rev. David Osgood. This was north of the present Fells parkway. It was bequeathed to the town by Dr. Osgood's daughter. The last years of Mr. Hall's life were saddened by the death of his oldest son, Benjamin. He had always been with his father in business, and in 1801 had become his successor.

He married Lucy Tufts, daughter of Dr. Simon Tufts, and took her, a bride, to the "Old Garrison House."[2] The young couple lived there nine years, and then removed (1786) to a new house built next to his father's. This mansion is still well preserved, and is a fine example of the architecture of its time. (Dr. Chandler's home.)

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[1] Now one of the most thickly settled parts of the city.

[2] Property of Jonathan Wade about 1650. Still standing. Some authorities think this dates back to 1636.

Simon Tufts, a wealthy merchant in the far East, who was a brother of Mrs. Hall, writing to his brother-in-law, gives a hint of the latter's character. In the eyes of a merchant prince the business carried on by young Hall seemed very small.

He writes: "You are doing business I should conceive not very profitably. . . . You are so attached to old houses, old works, and old places, that you would not like to relinquish — neither would it be proper, perhaps, as you have a family."

Loving his own home, he was contented to remain the prop of his father's old age, and the bond between the two was unusually close.

Benjamin, Jr., died in 1807, and his son Dudley crept into his father's place in the grandfather's heart.

With the building of the bridges, and the continuation of Middlesex canal to Boston, the trade of Medford declined. Lightering, which for a century had been carried on with profit, was at an end. As the old business died, a new interest — ship-building[1] — sprang into being, and a new era began.

Benjamin Hall was a stanch Federalist. In fact, the whole town was unanimous in the support of that party.

In the campaigns between Jefferson and Adams, Medford went solidly for the Massachusetts man. Mr. Hall was a delegate to the electoral college which made John Adams president.

The personal popularity of Governor Brooks caused the town to follow his leadership in politics as long as he lived, but after his death, in 1825, the new element carried the popular vote against the old party.

Benjamin Hall did not live to see that day. He died Feb. 2, 1817, aged eighty-six.

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[1] Thatcher Magoun laid the first keel in Medford in 1802.

His career as a public servant and private citizen, which extended over more than half a century, left an impress upon the town of his birth which has never been effaced.

[ ] TOWN OF MEDFORD TO SAM^{L} BROOKS TREAS^{R}

[ ]31/2

			Dr	s	d
[ ]n^{r}	17	To Cash paid to y^{e} Revrd. M^{r}. Turell for Salary	£50	00	00
[ ]	28	To D^{o}. p^{d}. To John Giles for his Pew	4	00	00
[ ]	v	To D^{o} p^{d}. to John Bradish for Glazing at the Meeting-houſe — —	2	09	03
[ ]	v	To D^{o}. p^{d}. to y^{e} Widow Suſanna Willis in full for a Room for the School in 1730/1	0	10	00
		To Cash paid to ſundry Perſons	78	13	06
[ ]	18	To D^{o}. p^{d}. to Lydia Pierce for Sweeping the Meet- (ing Houſe	3	00	00
		To D^{o}. p^{d}. to Sam^{l} Brooks Jun^{r}. in full for keeping School in Time paſt^{d} — — — — —	15	05	00
		To Caſh p^{d}. to y^{e} widow Suſanna Willis in full for [ ]oom for y^{e} School in Time paſt — — —	2	02	00
		[ ] Cash p^{d}. to Rich^{d} Sprague in full $\overset{of}{\wedge}$ his Order of S^{d}. Date	6	07	00
		[ ]o D^{o}. paid to Thomas Tufts Jun^{r}. for keeping School	8	00	00
		[ ]o D^{o} p^{d}. to Benjamin Willis on Accom^{t} of the	00	00	00
		School Houſe — — — — — — — — —	10	00	00
		To D^{o} paid to John Bradish for Glazing at the Meeting Houſe — — — — — —	1	2	11

TO SAMUEL BROOKS TREASUR^{R}

		£	s	
1731				
May 21	By Caſh Rece'd of y^{e} Truſtees of y^{e} 60000 Loan	£1	16	[ ]
1732				
may 21	By D^{o}. Receiv'^{d} of ſaid Truſtees — —	1	16	[ ]
1730	Omitted entring before			
	By Caſh Rece^{d}. of Conſtable Stephen Francis	100	o[	]
	By Caſh Rece^{d}. of S^{d}. Francis as Conſtable	3	o[	]

THE TOWN OF MEDFORD, TO STEPHEN HALL TREASURER D^{R}

1733			s	d
	(Meeting-houſe			
[ ]pril 17	To Cash paid to Lydia Peirce for Sweeping y^{e}	£4	0	0
[ ] 28	To Cash p^{d}. to Suſanna Willis, for the uſe of a Room to keep School in, In the year 1732	2	0	0
[ ] 26	To Cash p^{d}. to Sam^{l} Brooks — — — —	0	13	0
	(Gravelly Bridge			
[ ] 7	To Cash p^{d}. to Thomas Oakes, for work done at	14	9	0
[ ] 3/4				
[ ] 14	To Cash p^{d}. to Joseph Tufts, for work and Materialls for Gravelly Bridge — — —	11	3	6
	To Cash p^{d}. to Thomas Oakes, for work and Materials for the High Ways — — —	1	2	6
[ ]h 4	To Cash p^{d} to Solomon Page for keeping School	12	10	0
	(Highwayes			
[	] Cash p^{d}. to Stephen Patten for work at y^{e}	0	8	0
[	]o Cash p^{d} to Lydia Peirce for Sweeping y^{e} Meeting houſe	4	0	0
[	] Cash p^{d} to Sam^{l} Brooks for keeping School	16	0	0
[ ] 5	To Cash p^{d}. to John Willis, for work at y^{e} Highways	5	1	6
[ ] 26	To Cash p^{d}. to Solomon Page for keeping School	22	0	0
[ ] 0	To Caſh p^{d}. to Jona: Watſon, for work at y^{e} School houſe	18	10	0
[ ] 6	To Cash paid to Jacob Polly, for work at y^{e} School houſe	1	15	0
	To Cash p^{d}. to Sam^{l} Francis for work at y^{e} School houſe	1	15	0
	(Towns Pew			
[	] Cash p^{d}. to Peter Seccombe for Building y^{e}	2	13	10
	(highways			
[	] Cash p^{d}. to Francis Whitmore for work at y^{e}	1	11	6
	(Towns Pew			
[	] Cash pd to Francis Leathe, for building y^{e}	0	10	0
[	] Cash p^{d}. to William Hall, for work at y^{e} highway	1	6	0
	(highway			
	To Cash p^{d}. to Aaron Blanchard, for work at the	1	4	6
	To Cash p^{d}. to Joseph Tompſon for work at y^{e} highways	0	10	0
	To Cash p^{d} to William Willis, according to a Vote of y^{e} Town at y^{r} Meeting June 19th: 1734	3	0	0
	To Cash p^{d}. to Nath^{l} Hall for work and Materials for Gravelly Bridge — — — —	3	2	0

Contra		Credit		
1733			s	
March	By Cash paid by Nath^{l} Francis, being choſe Conſtable	£5	0	[ ]
	By Cash paid by Nath^{l} Hall, being choſe Conſtable	5		
	By Cash paid by Andrew Hall, being choſe Conſtable	5		
June	By Cash p^{d}. by y^{e} Truſtees of the 60000£ Loan	1	[ ]	
	By Cash paid by Conſtable Richard Sprague	40		
1734				
Sep^{t}.	By Cash p^{d}. by Andrew Hall on Acc^{t}. of y^{e} Widow Willis	31	[ ]	
	By Cash paid by Conſtable, Joseph Tompson	100	[ ]	
	By Cash p^{d}. by Deacon willis, in full of what was due from ∧ him as Treaſurer — — — — —	4	0	[ ]
	By Cash p^{d}. by William Willis, in full of what was due from him as Treaſurer — — —	4	0	[ ]
	By Cash p^{d}. by Constable Edward Oakes — —	3[ ]		
	By Caſh p^{d}. by Doc^{t}. Tufts, w^{ch}: he rece'd for Fines	[ ]		
	By Caſh p^{d}. by y^{e} Truſtees of y^{e} 60000£ Loan	|]		

NOTES.

The Annual Meeting of the Historical Society was held in the Society Rooms, March 19. President Wait, who had previously announced his intention to retire from the office which he had held for four years, gave an interesting address, covering the work and needs of the Society.

The reports of the various committees showed the organization to be in good working condition. The report of the Librarian and Curator, Miss Agnes W. Lincoln, was of especial interest. Votes of thanks to the retiring President, and the retiring Treasurer, Mr. Charles H. Loomis, were passed. The election of officers was held. The list will be found elsewhere.

A brief sketch, with portrait of Mr. J. H. Hooper, the newly elected President of the Society, appeared in the January number of the Register last year.

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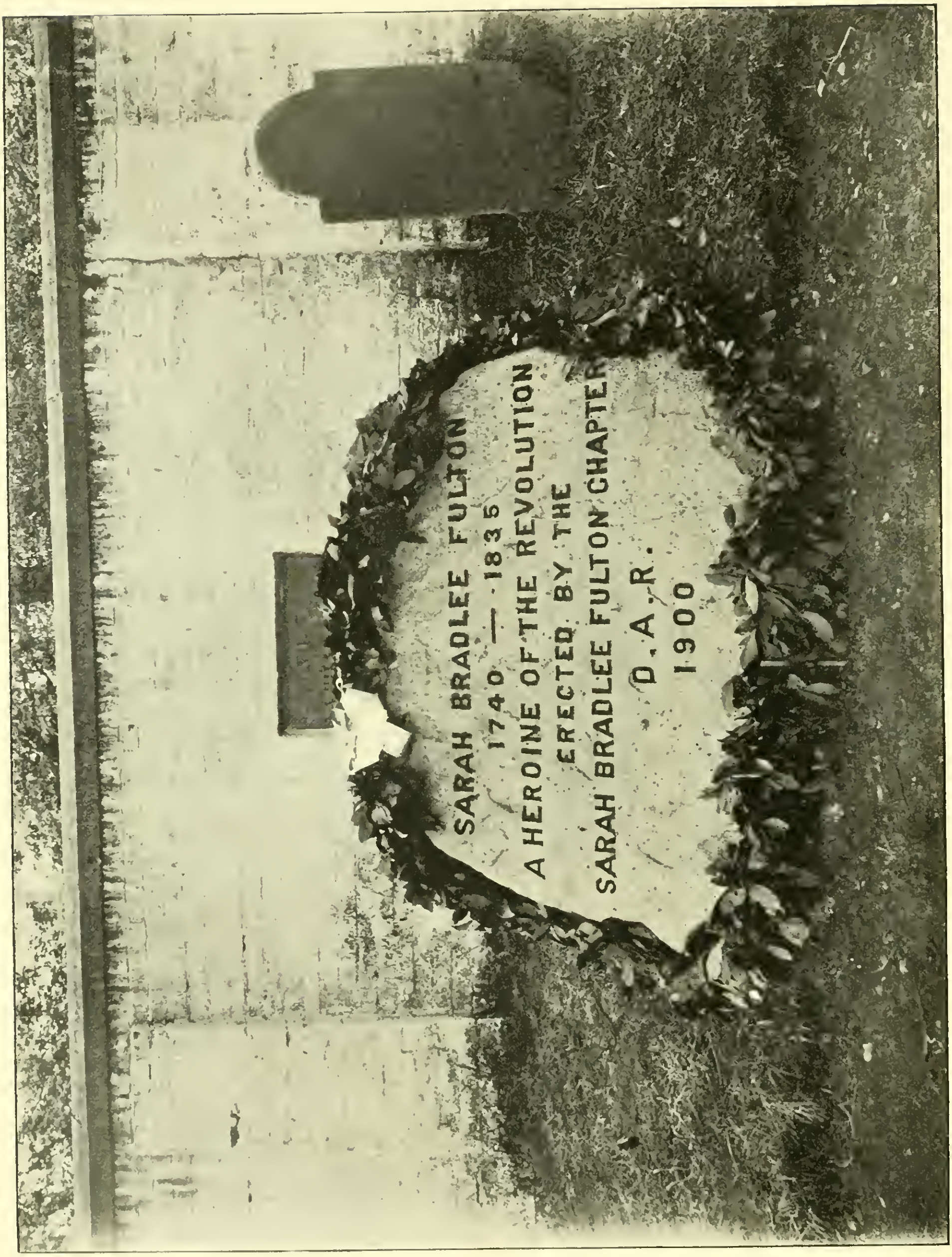

[This tablet was the door-stone of Mrs. Fulton's house for more than fifty years. Picture reproduced through courtesy of Mr. W. C. Eddy.]

The Medford Historical Register.

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LYDIA MARIA CHILD.

BY ANNA D. HALLOWELL.

FEW reputations survive the almost universal mortality of a hundred years. Whenever, or wherever, this exception occurs our curiosity is challenged to inquire what elements of character triumphed over the limitations of time, what traits were a part of immortal life. Almost a century has elapsed since a little girl was born in the village of Medford, on Feb. 11, 1802, and duly christened by Dr. Osgood, minister over the *First*, and *only*, Church, — Lydia Maria Francis. The substantial brick house in which she opened her eyes was built and owned by her father, David Francis, and is now occupied by the Medford Historical Society.

Richard Francis was the first of the name to come to America. He died in 1686 or 1687, aged eighty-six years, "or thereabouts," according to his gravestone in West Cambridge, now Arlington.

The next knowledge of the family is of Mrs. Child's grandfather, Richard Francis, a weaver by trade. He was an ardent "Liberty man," an excellent marksman, and is reported to have killed five redcoats at the Concord fight. He served four years in the war of the Revolution, and afterwards resumed his trade, which was a good one, no cloth being imported at that time. His wife was Lydia Converse, an orphan, brought up by her uncle, Dr. Converse, of Woburn. Their home is supposed to have been in Menotomy, the old Indian name of West Cambridge, adjoining the estate of Peter C. Brooks in Medford. Their son, David, was born there, and remained there for several years after his marriage to Susannah Rand, of Charlestown. Then in 1800 they removed to Medford, to the brick house already mentioned. He was a baker by trade, known far and wide by his "crackers" and gingerbread. The "crackers" were stamped "Medford," and were exported to England in large quantities. He retired from business at the age of fifty, with a fortune of $50,000, equal to a million now.

His boyhood had been passed in the stern realities following the seven years' war of the Revolution, and his wife, Susannah Rand, was one of a family who were driven from their home in Charlestown by the flames of the battle of Bunker Hill, with almost entire loss of property. As a result of this early time of heroism and endurance, their daughter Maria inherited a sturdy constitution with that spirit of independence and enthusiasm for human liberty which distinguished her in after years. Fine animal spirits, delight in living, tireless activity and energy, were a part of her abounding health. She said of herself that she was "born before nerves came into fashion." She was the youngest of five children, bright, impulsive, warm-hearted, and self-willed. It is much to be regretted that so few incidents of this remarkable child can be collected.

The first school she attended was the "dame school," kept by "Marm Betty," an ancient spinster of Medford, the envied possessor of some "flowered bed curtains" of fine needlework, the wonder of all beholders. She was a great tea-drinker, and on one occasion was deeply mortified because Governor Brooks found her drinking from the spout of her teapot. Tradition also asserts that she sometimes invited favorite scholars to take a cup of tea with her in her little back room, after the labors of studying the "three R.'s" in the front room. After this school it is supposed that Lydia attended the "Academy," kept by Dr. Hosmer.

When she was twelve years old her mother died, a calamity which was followed in about a year by the marriage of her elder sister Mary, on whom had fallen the duties of mother and housekeeper, and to whom she was warmly attached. Mary was eight years older than Maria, a well-poised character, and of rare judgment. The child was inconsolable, refused to be present at the wedding ceremony, and, taking her kitten for a sympathetic companion, disappeared up the side lane until all was over.

This dear sister's home was in the beautiful valley of the Kennebec, in the "District of Maine," a cruel distance in the slow stage-coach days of 1814, and the household left behind in Medford felt the separation keenly. Maria was left to the companionship of her always busy father, who wrote to a friend that he was "alarmed at her increasing fondness for books." This taste was fostered by her elder brother Converse, then a student at Harvard. Through him she had access to books beyond her entire comprehension, but all the more attractive to her imagination. It is easy to understand that David Francis should find it wise, after two or three years of school in Medford, to send this precocious daughter to Maine, to be under the care of her judicious sister, whose husband, the Hon. Warren Preston, was a lawyer of standing in Norridgewock, the shire town of Somerset county. The "Kennebec region," as it was called, was largely settled by members of cultivated Massachusetts families, graduates of Harvard and other universities, and professional men seeking new fields of occupation and interest. The court convened in Norridgewock. This brought judges and lawyers with their families to the town, from various parts of the State, and formed a centre of intelligence and refinement, in which Judge Preston's home was prominent. These new associations, combined with the freshness and vigor of the climate, the majestic forests and rivers, far beyond anything the young girl had ever seen before, could not fail to stimulate a temperament of such enthusiasm as hers.

Soon after going to Norridgewock, when she was fifteen years old, she wrote to her brother Converse:

"I have been busily engaged in reading 'Paradise Lost.' Homer hurried me along with rapid impetuosity ; every passion that he portrayed, I felt. I loved, hated, and resented, just as he inspired me. But when I read Milton I felt elevated above this diurnal sphere. I could but admire such astonishing grandeur of description, such heavenly sublimity of style."

One cannot help wondering how many girls of fifteen at the present time read Homer and Milton with such understanding, or express their appreciation so eloquently. In a letter three months later she wrote: "Much as I admire Milton, I must confess that Homer is a greater favorite with me."

Two years after, when she was seventeen, she gave the following account of her reading to her brother :

"I usually spend an hour after I retire for the night in reading Gibbon's 'Roman Empire.' I have likewise been reading Shakespeare, and I have been looking over the 'Spectator.' I do not think Addison so good a writer as Johnson, though a more polished one. Indeed, Johnson is my favorite among all his contemporaries."

While this remarkable selection of books for daily reading gives us insight into Maria's intellectual growth and training, we have evidence also of the way in which her sister, Mrs. Preston, attended to the development of her domestic accomplishments, in a piece of her handiwork lately presented to the Medford Historical Society, — an infant's gown, of quaintest pattern, embroidered in an elaborate pattern, with seams, gathers, and hems exquisitely sewed, all the work of her own hands, while she was in her teens. She was also taught to take part in the daily duties of her sister's household, as became a young lady of that primitive time.

Meantime, during these few years that she spent in Maine, her father had removed from Medford to Dorchester, and her brother Converse had been settled over the First Church in Watertown. She joined him in his new home, and there found the stimulating society and associations which presently bore fruit in active intellectual work. In 1824, when she was only twenty-three, her first novel, "Hobomok," was published, and her reputation as a writer was established. Its success was so great that she soon published another called "The Rebels; a Tale of the Revolution," which, like its predecessor, ran through several editions and brought showers of praise on its youthful writer. In a confidential letter to her sister, she said: "Praises and invitations have poured in upon me, beyond my utmost hopes. . . . 'I should think more highly of the talent of the woman who could write "Hobomok,"' Mr. H. says, 'than of any other American woman who has ever written, though to be sure it has its faults.' — 'Say nothing of its faults,' urges the editor of the 'North American;' 'they are the faults of genius, and the beauties weigh them down.' The Misses Osgood hold up their hands, and exclaim, 'prodigious, prodigious!' I mention these things to *you* because *you* want to hear all the talk that is passing."

General Warren was the hero of "The Rebels." It was received with the same favor that "Hobomok" had called forth, but some of the Calvinists took umbrage at the allusions to Dr. Byles. Of this she wrote to her sister:

"The Calvinists, you know, have a fist always doubled up for a combat. They expect to find the Thirty-Nine Articles supported as manfully in a modern novel as in Dr. Griffin's sermon. I do not think it worth while to battle with them or their doctrines. As mankind advance in the steady march of free and rational principles their absurd tenets will die away, together with image worship, pilgrimages to Mecca, and holy alliances. Indeed, their present extraordinary zeal is but the convulsive spasm of approaching dissolution."

In 1825 she again wrote to her sister: "'Evenings in New England' has been out several weeks, and meets with much more unqualified approbation than 'Hobomok.'" This book was a charming memorial of Lafayette's visit to this country. She had witnessed his triumphal entrance into Boston, and the overwhelming enthusiasm on Beacon street when the attempt was made to take out the horses and draw his barouche by hand. This was more than the noble patriot could bear. He rose from his seat, with gestures of deprecation, while tears rolled down his cheeks. Afterwards, at the reception given him by the governor, Maria received from him a kiss on her hand, which she declared should "never be washed off." At this time "the brilliant Miss Francis" was one of the lions of Boston. She was invited everywhere. Mr. Ticknor, an aristocrat of the first water (spoken of by some as the "Crœsus of Boston,"), would write first to her before inviting other guests, declaring that he desired no one if she could not make one of the company. We can readily believe that the presence of a young lady of such wit and vivacity, fearless, and enjoying to the full her own success, should be coveted on all social occasions. She was attractive in appearance also, but even then, in the height of youthful charms, could not be called beautiful. It was her friend and schoolmate, the preëminent Emily Marshall, who alone deserved and graced the title of "The Beautiful."

On Aug. 28, 1826, she wrote "You have no idea how busy I am. Besides my other work I have engaged to edit a book for children, ninety pages once in two months, and all original matter. Two publishers made the request to me, and I refused, but some Boston ladies finally persuaded me into it." The "Juvenile Miscellany" proved to be one of the best periodicals of its kind. Only a few years ago one of the most scholarly men of our time declared in glowing terms his obligations to its healthful influence, and another, a prominent writer, said he owed his literary style to a familiarity with its admirable English. Some parts of it were republished in 1844 and 1845, with additions, in two small books, called the "Flowers for Children." They are the best books for little children that I have ever known. The stories are short, direct, wholesome, and admirably told. Unfortunately they are now out of print. The "Juvenile Miscellany" began with a subscription list of eight hundred and fifty, a large number in these days, and, we are told with pride, "continued to increase."

It was in this year, 1826, that Alexander painted Maria's portrait, which she sent to her sister, Mrs. Preston, writing, "I hope you will like it. There is a glow and enthusiasm about it which belongs to the author of 'Hobomok,' rather than to L. M. Francis."[1]

Another letter, about this time, also to her sister, with whom she maintained an intimate and confidential correspondence, spoke thus of her literary reputation and social success: "The 'Miscellany' is very kindly received. It seems as if the public was resolved to give me a flourish of trumpets, let me write what I will. If I were not vain, I should be a prodigy. Indeed, I have been too much caressed of late by a flattering world. Valuable gifts, jewels, beautiful dresses pour in upon me, invitations beyond acceptance, admiring letters from all parts of the country. The world seldom smiled so graciously on one so little worthy of its notice."

It certainly is safe to say that rarely has a young author, altogether unheralded, without social distinction, personal beauty, or wealth, been so overwhelmed with admiration and devotion, and it is remarkable that her head was not completely turned, and that she was only "a little vain," and that when the summons came to relinquish these plaudits of a smiling world for the sake of principle, she found herself not unfitted for the heroic sacrifice. But the time had not yet come, nor even shown itself as a cloud on the shining horizon. She was still the petted darling of the intellectual and fashionable society of Cambridge and Boston. In order to perfect herself in French, she passed the winter of 1826 in the family of Madam Canda, the famous French teacher, saying, "I decided to board in the family in order to hold my English tongue." Here she made some delightful friendships, among them that of Emily Marshall, the celebrated historic beauty of Boston. To her latest day, Mrs. Child never mentioned her without emotion.

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[1] This portrait, a life-size oil painting, is now in the possession of the Medford Historical Society, the gift of Mrs. Preston's family.

During all this season of adulation and popularity, a quiet influence had been at work, of which the success was still unsuspected. It is revealed in the following extracts from her journal:

"Dec. 2, 1824. Mr. Child dined with us at Watertown. He possesses the rich fund of an intelligent traveller without the slightest tinge of a traveller's vanity."

And a month later:

"Jan. 26, 1825. Saw Mr. Child at Mr. Curtis's. He is the most gallant man that has lived since the 16th century, and needs nothing but a helmet, shield, and chain armor to make him a complete knight of chivalry."

And again:

"May 3, 1825. One among the many delightful evenings spent with Mr. Child. I do not know which to admire most, the vigor of his understanding or the ready sparkle of his wit."

In her letters are many expressions of a strong determination never to marry — "Nature never intended me for anything but single life, and I am not going to quarrel with her plans." It goes without saying that opportunities calculated to shake this conviction were not wanting; one, in particular, seemed ideal, and might have spared her impulsive genius many of the "whips and scorns of Time." But who can tell?

On Oct. 28, 1827, she wrote to her sister: "I blush that I should have been absolutely *engaged* more than a month, without having found a moment to tell you of the important news. Mr. Child's extreme devotion and my own excess of happiness must form my excuse for this negligence. Indeed, my dear sister, I am happy, happy, happy, beyond my own imagination." This event did not meet with the cordial approbation of her friends and family. Mr. David Lee Child was a most accomplished scholar and refined gentleman, of unquestioned integrity and moral worth, had travelled extensively in Europe, was familiar with ancient and modern languages, was courtly in his manners; but with all these desirable qualities was one most *un*desirable — a genius for experiments, without counting the cost. He was a lawyer in Boston, and a member of the Legislature, but gave up his profession to edit the "Massachusetts Journal," soon after their marriage, which took place in Watertown, at eight o'clock Sunday evening, Oct. 19, 1828.

Maria's letter to her sister, concerning the preparations for this event, is characteristic of herself and of the simple living of that day. She had a comfortable income from her books (we wish we could know just how much the word "*comfortable*" meant, but no clue to the amount is given), and devoted a share of it to the renting and furnishing of a small house in Harvard street, in Boston. She spoke of her new home as "a proper little martin box, furnished with very plain gentility," and thus went on to describe her wedding-presents: "A pretty butter knife and cream ladle, — a study lamp, — from Mrs. Thaxter a jar of pickles [Mrs. Thaxter was the mother of Levi Thaxter, the Browning scholar.] — Mrs. White sent me a keg of tongues [Mrs. White was the mother of Maria White, James Russell Lowell's first wife.] — Mrs. Tyler Bigelow, a pair of plated candlesticks, — Emily Marshall, a pair of stellar lamps, and Mary M., polished steel snuffers on a plated tray. My mantua-maker has been here a week. I have a claret-colored silk pelisse, lined with straw-colored silk, made in the extent of the mode, enough to make anybody stare; one black figured levantine silk, and one swiss muslin. My wedding gown is India muslin, a good deal trimmed with white satin. Clarissa Bigelow is to be bridesmaid, and I have bought 35 lbs. of cake of Nichols."

The "proper little martin box" was situated on Harvard street, but they soon removed to Cottage place, a small street leading out of Washington street, on the neck, beyond Dover. It may be that it is one of several quaint wooden houses still standing, sufficiently attractive even now in their tenement-house decadence, and suggestive of the time when they commanded a view of Dorchester and Brookline over the water. To the years spent in this house, Mrs. Child afterwards referred as the happiest in her life.

Not long after their marriage a Spanish pirate ship was captured, and brought to Boston. The men were charged with most cruel crimes and were threatened with summary punishment. David Lee Child offered his services in their behalf and urged a fair trial. Mrs. Child believed in their innocence and warmly espoused their cause, to the length of travelling all the way to Washington by stage-coach in the depth of winter, to intercede for them with President Jackson. In this interview she employed all her eloquence, and at last cast herself on her knees before him, begging for their lives, without avail; she could not move him. His only reply was, "By the Eternal, let them hang!" But, according to Mr. Wendell Phillips, the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Child secured the miserable men a trial according to law.

During all this time Mrs. Child's pen was never idle. In the interval between her marriage in 1828, and that turning-point in her career, the writing of her famous pamphlet on slavery, in 1833, entitled "An Appeal in Behalf of that Class of Americans called Africans," she published nine books:

"The First Settlers of New England."
"The Frugal Housewife."
"The Mother's Book."
"The Girl's Own Book."
"The Coronal," and
"The Ladies' Family Library," in 4 vols., a series of admirable short biographies.

The "Mother's Book" ran through eight American editions, twelve English, and one German. The "Frugal Housewife," which achieved twenty-five editions, embodied the practical housekeeping of the first quarter of the century, and largely regulated that of the second quarter. It is most entertaining as well as useful reading. Mrs. Child was then one of the most popular writers in the United States. Publishers eagerly accepted her manuscripts, and paid her well. The highest literary authority in the country, the "North American Review," declared that no woman could outrank her. The Boston Athenæum went so far, to honor her, as to present her with the freedom of the library. Every door, literary and social, was open to her. But the hour had come when principle was to contend with popularity and ambition.

The Anti-Slavery agitation was coming to the front. Mr. Child had been interested in the question for several years, and had become a member of the New England Society. In 1832 he had addressed a series of able letters on slavery and the slave trade to Edward S. Abdy, a prominent English philanthropist, his outspoken hostility to the "peculiar institution" seriously affecting his profession. In 1833 the American Anti-Slavery Society was formed by a convention in Philadelphia, and soon after, Mrs. Child published the famous book already alluded to, "The Appeal in Behalf of that Class of Americans called Africans." In the preface to it she says: "I am fully aware of the unpopularity of the task I have undertaken, but though I *expect* ridicule and censure, I cannot *fear* them. A few years hence the opinion of the world will be a matter in which I have not even the most transient interest; but this book will be abroad on its mission of humanity long after the hand that wrote it is mingling with the dust. Should it be the means of advancing even one single hour the inevitable progress of truth and justice, I would not exchange the consciousness for all Rothschild's wealth or Sir Walter's fame."

John G. Whittier, in his preface to Mrs. Child's "Letters," published in 1883, wrote, concerning this appeal: "It is quite impossible for any one of the present generation to imagine the popular surprise and indignation which this book called forth, or how entirely its author cut herself off from the favor and sympathy of a large number of those who had delighted to do her honor. Social and literary circles closed their doors to her.[1] The sale of her books, the subscriptions to her magazine fell off to a ruinous extent. Thenceforth her life was a battle, a constant rowing against the stream of popular prejudice and hatred. And through it all she bore herself with patience, fortitude, and unshaken reliance upon the justice and ultimate triumph of the cause she had espoused. Whenever there was a brave word to be spoken, her voice was heard, and never in vain."

In a letter written to the Rev. Samuel J. May in 1867, Mrs. Child refers as follows to the change in her circumstances made by the publication of the "Appeal": "With regard to society I was a gainer decidedly, for though the respectables, who had condescended to patronize me, forthwith sent me to Coventry, Anti-Slavery introduced me to the noblest and best in the land, intellectually and morally, and knit us together in that firm friendship which grows out of sympathy in a good but unpopular cause. I was quite surprised one day, some time before this, by a note from the trustees of the Boston Athenæum, offering me the use of the library, the same as if I owned a share. About the time of this unexpected attention from the trustees, Mr. Garrison came to Boston and I had a talk with him. Consequently, the first use I made of my Athenæum privilege was to take out some books on that subject (slavery), with a view to writing my 'Appeal.' A few weeks after the 'Appeal' was published, I received another note from the trustees, informing me that at a recent meeting they had passed a vote to take away my privilege, lest it should prove an inconvenient precedent!"

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[1] Mr. Ticknor passed her by on the street without seeing her.

Of the influence that Mr. Garrison had exerted upon her, Mrs. Child wrote in 1879, a year before her death, "It is wonderful how one mortal may affect the destiny of a multitude. I remember distinctly the first time I saw Garrison. I little thought then that the whole pattern of my life web would be changed by that introduction. I was then all absorbed in poetry and painting, soaring aloft on Psyche wings into the ethereal regions of mysticism. He got hold of the strings of my conscience and pulled me into reforms. It is of no use to imagine what might have been if I had never met him. Old dreams vanished, old associates departed, and all things became new. But the new surroundings were all alive, and they brought a moral discipline worth ten times the sacrifice they cost."

Mrs. Child never posed as a martyr; indeed, she never posed at all, but was straightforward to a fault, as her directness sometimes got her into trouble with those that did not understand it. She said of herself: "I don't like conventional fetters. There have been many attempts to saddle and bridle me and teach me to keep step in respectable processions, but they have never got the lasso over my neck yet."

The following verses are supposed to have been written during the season of reproach and privation which resulted from her brave "Appeal":

"Few in the days of early youth
Trusted like me in love and truth.
I've learned sad lessons with the years,
But slowly, and with many tears.
For God made me to *kindly* view
The world that I am passing through.

Though kindness and forbearance, long
Must meet ingratitude and wrong,
I still would bless my fellow-men
And trust them, though deceived again.
God keep me still to kindly view
The world that I am passing through.

From all that fate has brought to me
I strive to learn humility;
And trust in Him who rules above
Whose universal law is love.
Thus only can I kindly view
The world that I am passing through.

When I approach the setting sun
And feel my journey well-nigh done,
May earth be veiled in genial light
And her last smile to me seem bright.
Help me till then to kindly view
The world that I am passing through.

In 1836 Mrs. Child published "Philothea," a Greek romance in the time of Phidias, Plato, Anaxagoras, Pericles, Alcibiades, and Aspasia. It was pronounced the crowning achievement of her intellectual efforts, and was received with something of the enthusiasm that had greeted her early novels. Everybody read it, every library contained a copy. It is one of the pathetic reverses of the whirligig of time, that these same copies are now dusty and unread, completely out of favor with modern sensational taste. The classical allusions in which it abounds are carefully explained in an admirable appendix, which closes with a passage as frank as the heart of the writer: "If there be errors in the application of Greek names and phrases my excuse must be an entire want of knowledge in the classic languages. But, like the ignoramus in the old drama, I can boast 'though I *speak* no Greek, I love the *sound* on't.'"

Between "Philothea" in 1836 and the "Letters from New York" in 1843 and 1845, there were several publications of less importance, besides numberless contributions to the Anti-Slavery cause in newspapers and magazines. Meantime, Mr. Child visited England and France, whence he returned full of the idea of manufacturing beet sugar, and with this end in view they removed to Northampton, where they bought a suitable farm, and established what would now be called a plant. It cost a great deal of money, principally of Mrs. Child's earnings, and proved an entire failure. Mrs. Child's letters from Northampton do not sound very happy. One begins: "If I were to choose my home, I certainly would not place it in the valley of the Connecticut. It is true the river is broad and clear, the hills majestic, and the whole aspect of outward nature most lovely. But oh! the narrowness, the bigotry of man!"

We can glean from other extracts some idea of the hardships of her daily life, a life of actual hard work, made endurable by the perennial vigor of her cheerful disposition, the sustaining power of her love for the beautiful in nature and in art, and a vivid religious sentiment.

This is noticeable in the following letter to her brother Converse: "I am ashamed to say how deeply I am charmed with sculpture. I have a little plaster cast of a caryatid which acts upon my spirit like a magician's spell. Many a time this hard summer I have laid down dishcloth or broom, and gone to refresh my spirit by gazing on it a few minutes. It speaks to me. In summer I place flowers before it, and now I have laid a garland of acorns and amaranth at its feet."

In another: "A month elapsed after I came here before I stepped into the woods which were all around me blooming with wild flowers. I did not go to Mr. Dwight's ordination, nor yet have I been to meeting. He has been to see me, however, and though I left my work in the midst and sat down with a dirty gown and hands somewhat grimed, we were high in the blue in fifteen minutes. I promised to take a flight with him from the wash-tub or dish-kettle any time he would come along with his balloon."

Again: "You are right, my dear brother, to attribute such freshness as I have to a vivid religious sentiment. If I can in quietness and peace forego my own pleasure and relinquish my own tastes, I seem to those who live in shadows to be cooking food or mixing medicines, but I am in fact making divine works of art which will reveal to me their fair proportions in the far eternity. Another means of keeping my soul fresh is my intense love of Nature. Another help, perhaps stronger than either of the two, is domestic love.

"The only house on our farm is a sort of shanty with two rooms and a garret. We expect to whitewash it, build a new woodshed, and live there the next year. I shall keep no help, and there will be room enough for David and me. I intend to half bury it in flowers. I have obtained a hyacinth bean, which I value because it grew around my door in Cottage place, where I spent the happiest years of my life."

Here let me quote a little from that admirable biography, Mrs. Leslie's "Recollections of my Mother":

"Mrs. Lyman had the greatest affection for David Lee Child and his gifted wife. But she was often much tried with the amount of time, hard labor, and money which Mr. Child expended on schemes that never succeeded, and with his going from one failure to another with unbounded enthusiasm. At one time it was the '*morus multicaulis*,' at another it was beet sugar. For years he toiled upon a farm that was a worthless swamp when he bought it, and made a hundred blades of grass grow where one grew before, but at an awful expense of bone and sinew, of life and health and money, and much anxiety to his dear, devoted wife, whom he loved sincerely and fully believed he would make rich."

Mrs. Lyman once asked Mrs. Child what her husband was busy at then; to which Mrs. Child replied that he was "carting stones for the new railroad." "Indeed," said Mrs. Lyman; "well, how much do you suppose your husband loses on every load of stone that he carts?" Mrs. Child answered cheerily, "As nearly as I can compute it, Mrs. Lyman, he must lose about ten cents on every load."

"Oh — well now," said Mrs. Lyman, "if he has got hold of anything by which he loses only ten cents a load, do encourage him in it!"

Mrs. Child's ready sense of humor probably prevented a very natural resentment at her friend's brusque wit, for her only reply was an amused smile.

The intention to live in the "shanty" on the farm was never fulfilled. Mrs. Child was called to New York to edit the "Anti-Slavery Standard." In her first impression of this new work she wrote: "My task here is irksome to me. It was not zeal for the cause, but love for my husband, which brought me hither. But since it was necessary for me to leave home to be earning somewhat, I am thankful that my work is for the Anti-Slavery cause. I have agreed to stay one year. I hope I shall then be able to return to my husband and rural home, which is humble enough, yet very satisfactory to me. I trust this weary separation from my husband is not to last more than a year. If I must be away from him, I could not be more happily situated than in Friend Hopper's family."

"Friend Hopper," as she called him, according to the custom among friends in addressing a person older than yourself, was Isaac T. Hopper, whose remarkable life she afterwards wrote. Whittier calls this one of the most readable biographies in English literature. During her stay in New York, which continued, contrary to all expectation, until 1849 or 1850, she wrote a series of letters to the "Boston Courier," edited by Joseph Buckingham, which were published later in book form, as "Letters from New York, First and Second Part." She began also her great work, "The Progress of Religious Ideas through Successive Ages." This was published in 1855. About this time James Russell Lowell admirably portrayed Mrs. Child in his "Fable for Critics." He evidently admired her greatly.

In 1849 she left New York and joined her husband in West Newton, but soon after they went to Wayland to live with Mrs. Child's father, the aged David Francis. In this house they spent the rest of their lives, with an occasional winter in Medford with their friends, the Misses Osgood, or in Boston, either boarding or visiting other friends. Those of us who were privileged to see the home in Wayland will never forget it. The house was an unpretentious country house of one story and attic, set a little back from the public road, and separated from it by a charming old-fashioned flower garden, the delight of Mrs. Child. The interior was simple and attractive, with evidences of studied economy. To the mere looker-on the inmates seemed shut in from the world, but in reality they kept in touch with its best interests. Never was a more striking instance of "plain living and high thinking." One of Mrs. Child's fancies was to hang prisms in the windows to trap the rainbow colors. She desired to have cheerful colors, cheerful pictures, and cheerful faces about her. Cheerfulness was part of her every-day religion. She turned her face resolutely to the better side of things. In a letter to a friend, she said of herself: "The world is so full of sadness that I more and more make it a point to avoid all sadness that does not come within the sphere of my duty. I read only 'chipper' books. I hang prisms in the windows to fill the rooms with rainbows. I gaze at all the bright pictures in the shop windows. I cultivate the gayest flowers. I seek cheerfulness in every possible way."

Her aged and invalid father lingered with them until December, 1856, when death released him. She felt the loss keenly. "The occupation of my life seems gone. I cannot settle down to work. Always when I came back from Boston there was a bright firelight in his room for me, and his hand was eagerly stretched out, and the old face lighted up as he said, 'You're welcome back, Maria.'" After his death it was only David and Maria until 1874, and then, until 1880, only Maria.

A friend who had ample opportunity to know the home life of Mr. and Mrs. Child said of it: "Their domestic life seemed to me perfect." Their sympathies, their admiration of all things good, and their hearty hatred of all things mean and evil, were in entire unison. Mr. Child shared his wife's enthusiasm, and was very proud of her. In all her undertakings he gave her that sympathetic support which makes work so easy. He lived among his books, but was never too busy to dig up the garden, chop wood, or do any domestic service to save her trouble. They kept no help. In Mrs. Child's letters there are many allusions to her husband's tender thoughtfulness. One of these is as follows: "How melancholy I felt when you went off in the stage in the morning darkness. It almost made me cry to see how carefully you had arranged everything for my comfort before you left; so much kindling wood cut up, and the bricks piled to protect my flowers." In such ways, their affection, never paraded, was always manifest. After Mr. Child's death, Mrs. Child said, in speaking of a future life: "I believe it would be of small value to me, if I were not united to him." In this connection, let me quote a few lines from some reminiscences of her husband, found among her papers, and published in the preface to her "Letters."

"In 1852 we made a humble home in Wayland, Mass., where we spent twenty-two pleasant years entirely alone, without any domestic, mutually serving each other, and dependent upon each other for intellectual companionship. I always depended on his richly-stored mind, which was able and ready to furnish needed information on any subject. . . . But what I remember with the most tender gratitude is his uniform patience and forbearance with my faults. He never would see anything but the right side of my character. He always insisted upon thinking that whatever I said was the wisest and the wittiest, and that whatever I did was the best. The simplest little *jeu d'esprit* of mine seemed to him wonderfully witty. Once, when he said, 'I wish for your sake, dear, I were as rich as Crœsus,' I answered, 'You *are* Crœsus, for you are king of Lydia.' How often he used to quote that! His mind was unclouded to the last. He had a passion for philology, and only eight hours before he passed away, he was searching out the derivation of a word." He died in 1874, a little over eighty years old.

It is pleasant and profitable to dwell on the domestic side of an intellectual woman, known to the world chiefly by her writings and her interest in public reforms. She was no Borriaboolagah sentimentalist, busied with the needs of remote barbarians; her field was close at home, among the sick and needy of her own neighborhood. A firm believer in the reform then called "Woman's Rights," whose supporters were supposed to be disdainful of home life and its duties, she was yet an admirable housekeeper of the most practical kind, and author of the standard cook-book of the day. She carried her belief in the cause of temperance to the extent of reclaiming a wretched neighbor from the degradation of drunkenness, and steadily supported his efforts to withstand the horrible temptation. She delighted in music, particularly the violin, and sought every opportunity to hear it, when she was staying in

Medford or Boston. Her love for the beautiful was a marked characteristic, and, as she often said, a great help to her in some of the trying experiences of her varied life. With all these traits, she was naturally very impetuous, and impatient of hindrances. She liked to have her own way, and was full of prejudices, which were most difficult to uproot, when once they had started. But these were only the balancing faults of a strong nature, the shadows that brought out the lights. Her friends can all echo the words of Wendell Phillips: "A dear lovable woman, welcome at sick bedsides, as much in place there as in facing an angry nation, contented in the home she had made, a loyal friend, a wise counsellor, one who made your troubles hers. She was the kind of woman one would choose to represent woman's entrance into broader life." We must not pass over her being a hearty *hater*, as well as a most loyal friend; and one more prominent trait must be mentioned: she was a royal giver of her time, her sympathy, and her money. She practised the most rigid economy, to the smallest particular, in dress and manner of life; used an envelope twice, inside as well as out, and never wrote on a whole sheet of paper when half a sheet would answer; but she saved with one hand to give away with the other. Her one luxury was to *give*, and in this she exercised no self denial. She once offered Mr. Phillips $100 for the freedmen, in a particular emergency, and he deprecated her giving so large an amount. "Well," said she, "I'll think it over." The next day she wrote, "Wendell, make it $200!" Another time she wrote him, "I have $400 to my credit at my publishers, for my book 'Looking toward Sunset;' please get it and give it to the freedmen."

My personal acquaintance with Mr. and Mrs. Child began a little before this, in the troubled times just before the Civil war, and just after what was called the "John Brown raid." Mr. and Mrs. Child spent that winter of 1859 and 1860 in Medford, with their friend

Miss Lucy Osgood, and we met them frequently. It was an anxious winter. Abolitionists were hated, ostracized, and mobbed. Wendell Phillips went to and from his lectures surrounded by a body-guard of young men, self appointed to protect him from the violence which was constantly threatened and sometimes attempted. Even sedate, conservative Medford shared in the disturbance. On one memorable occasion one of the few abolitionists in the town, warmly seconded by Mrs. Child, arranged to hold an Anti-Slavery meeting in the Town Hall, with Miss Sally Holly as speaker. This was said to be the first meeting of the kind ever called in Medford. It aroused such excitement, such threats of violence (even to the tarring and feathering of the gentleman in charge [1]), that the Selectmen feared a mob, and gave orders that the Hall should not be opened. It apparently did not occur to them that free speech could be *defended* more wisely than suppressed. The appointed evening came, bitter cold, with heavy snow on the ground. When we drove down to the meeting, the square was a surging mass of men, the steps to the Hall were packed solid, and the doors were closed! The crowd talked angrily, but no violence was done. Several of Mr. Phillips' "body-guard," having heard of the excitement, were on hand in case of need, and stood about the sleigh while Miss Holly rose and made a brief address. Then she and her friends withdrew to Mrs. Child's parlor, and held a lively indignation meeting there.

If time and space permitted, I should like to quote many passages from Mrs. Child's later letters, telling of her varied activities and interests, but I must sum up briefly the amount of intellectual work she accomplished during her life in Wayland, passing by the amazing record of sewing done for Kansas, and the freedmen, with only one instance: the making at one time of sixty yards of cloth into garments, in eight days, with the help of a neighbor and her children.

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[1] Richard P. Hallowell, who received anonymous letters to that effect.

How she found time, between 1850 and 1880, to do her own housework, to visit, to read, to sew, to garden, and to write thirteen books, is beyond an ordinary comprehension. Thirteen books, including,

"The Progress of Religious Ideas," in 3 vols.; the famous "Correspondence with Governor Wise of Virginia," at the time of John Brown's execution at Harper's Ferry; "The Freedman's Book;" "A Romance of the Republic;" "Looking toward Sunset;" and, only two years before her death, "Aspirations of the World."

Her death occurred quite unexpectedly on the morning of the twentieth of October, 1880. She had been as well as usual, and had been making plans for the winter, when suddenly she complained of a severe pain, and before help could be summoned, passed gently away, in the seventy-ninth year of her age. A few friends from Medford drove up to her funeral on the beautiful October day, and listened to the inspired words of Wendell Phillips, as he stood by his old friend, with his hand on her coffin, and told us, as only he could, of the struggles and the triumphs which had built the noble character he described. Then, led by the white-haired undertaker, the small procession slowly walked to the burying-ground near by, and as we stood there, in reverent silence, a magnificent rainbow spanned the eastern sky.

INSCRIPTION ON THE STONE AT MRS. CHILD'S GRAVE IN WAYLAND.

LYDIA MARIA CHILD

BORN FEB. 11, 1802
DIED OCT. 20, 1880

You call us dead
We are not dead
We are truly living now.

SLAVERY IN MEDFORD.

By Walter H. Cushing.

SLAVERY existed in Massachusetts almost from the first settlement of the colony, and was somewhat increased as a result of the Pequot war in 1637. The slaves in this instance were, of course, Indians. The chief source of African slaves, so far as their importation is concerned, was through trade with Barbadoes, a British island in the West Indies. Slaves purchased in Africa were sold chiefly in the West Indies and the Southern colonies ; the balance came North.

The mainspring of the traffic was rum ; and Brooks in his "History of Medford" gives an extract from a captain's account-book showing balance between rum and slaves.

Very few whole cargoes, however, came to Massachusetts ; and only a small number of ships from Boston engaged in the African trade. In 1703 a duty of £4 was imposed on every negro imported. Slaves were most numerous in Massachusetts about 1745 ; in 1763 the ratio of whites to blacks, the latter including many free negroes, was 45:1.

When the Massachusetts Body of Liberties was drawn up in 1641, the question of slavery was treated as follows :

"Art. 91. There shall never be any bond-slavery, villanage, or captivity amongst us, unless it be lawful captives taken in just wars, and such strangers as willingly sell themselves, or are sold to us."

Commenting on this article, Palfrey, in his "History of New England," says: "Born of slave mother is not mentioned as cause of slavery ; and in fact no person was ever born into legal slavery in Massachusetts."

In the Constitution of Massachusetts, adopted in 1780, it is declared that "all men are born free and equal."

This was the doom of slavery ; and the interpretation of this clause in the case of Commonwealth *v.* Jennison settled finally the freedom of the negro in this State.

In proportion to its size Medford seems to have had a large number of slaves. Out of 114 towns returning the number of negro slaves Medford ranks 12th. In 1755 the number of slaves sixteen years old and upwards was 34, of whom 27 were males. There was no return from Charlestown ; but the only other town in Middlesex county returning a larger number was Cambridge, which reported a total of 56.

One of the most valuable bits of statistics, however, relating to Medford is contained in the "Columbian Centinel" of Aug. 17, 1822. It is entitled an "Account of the Houses, Families, Number of White People, Negroes & Indians, in the Province of Mass. Bay, taken in the year 1764 and 1765."

Evidently a census had been undertaken and, as such inquiries were notoriously unpopular, it was either unfinished or at least not published. A copy of it came into the possession of the "Centinel" and was published as an interesting source of local history. That portion relating to Medford is here given in full :

Houses.	Families.	Males under 16.	Females under 16.	Males over 16.	Females over 16.	Negroes.	Total.
104	147	161	150	207	223	49	790

The negroes thus constituted one-sixteenth of the population of the town in 1765. By way of comparison it may be added that in 1822 Medford had 1,474 inhabitants ; in 57 years it had failed to double its population. As the ratio of whites to blacks in the colony at large was 45 : 1, it is seen that Medford had an unusually large negro population.

So far as I have found records, a strong, able-bodied negro was worth, in 1700, about £18. In the inventory of Maj. Jonathan Wade's property appears the following asset :

5 negroes . . . . £ 97;

and elsewhere in his papers is the record : "2 negroes that died appraised @ £35." Still, it is impossible to generalize from such insufficient data. After the beginning of hostilities in 1775 Colonel Royall departed for Nova Scotia, and Dr. Tufts for a while managed his property. Under date of March 12, 1776, Royal writes : "Please to sell the following negroes ; Stephen and George ; they each cost £60 sterling ; and I would take £50, or even £15, apiece for them.[1] Hagar cost £35 sterling, but I will take £30 for her. I gave for Mira £35, but will take £25. If Mr. Benjamin Hall will give the £100 for her which he offered, he may have her, it being a good place. As to Betsey and her daughter Nancy, the former may tarry, or take her freedom, as she may choose ; and Nancy you may put out to some good family by the year."

The range of prices is here much higher, averaging about £40.

References to slavery in the Town-meeting Records are very few. The first is in the meeting of Aug. 18, 1718, when it was "Put to Vote whether every inhabitant of this Town Shall when they buy any Servant Male or Female Be obliged to acquaint and inform the Selectmen of S^{d}. Town for their approbation ;" the motion was carried. Inasmuch as a rather close scrutiny was made of all freemen who were newcomers into the town, it is not surprising that this was extended to include the servants.

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[1] George had died the day before this letter was written.

Although the slaves were a small minority of the population, there was danger in allowing them to run at large ; and, like other " property," if found straying abroad were, in a manner, " *impounded*," as the following vote of the town in 1734 discloses : " All Negroes Indians and Mulattoes — Servants That are found abroad without Leave and not on Their master's business shall be Taken up and *whiped* Ten Stripes on Their Naked back by any freeholder of This Town and be carryed To Their Respective masters and ye Said Master shall be obliged to Pay the Sum of Two shillings and Six pence in money To ye said Person That shall so Do."

On the other hand, the spiritual welfare of the slaves was not neglected. Before 1740 special seats in the meeting-house were provided ; and at a Town meeting in 1741 it was " voted that Jonathan Watson with the advice of the selectmen do make sum more convenience for the negroes to sit in the meeting house." The same meeting, it is to be noticed in passing, declined " to make the School house more comfortable for the winter."

In 1745 the question of straying negroes again came up. The vote of this year differs from that of 1734 in three respects : (1) a specific part of the day is named; (2) the punishment is not inflicted by the person finding the slave; (3) the money fine is omitted. The vote is as follows : " Any person of said Town That shall Se any Negro Servant belonging to Said Town from home after Nine of the Clock at night and if said Servant Cannot satisfy the person That meets or finds him from home The Negros name shall be returned to the Justyce the next morning and desire the Justyce to Send for the Said Negros master and order ye Negro to be whiped in the market place not exceeding Ten stripes unless the Said master Give Satisfaction." The phrase "give satisfaction" may mean a money compensation or a satisfactory explanation; the latter I am inclined to regard as the intended meaning. Brooks says, "they [*i.e.*, the slaves] were treated much after the manner of children." The statement is ambiguous. Did this law remind him of a curfew regulation?

The records of vital statistics contain frequent notices of slaves. Of these the most numerous are the deaths; the fewest are the marriages. As the master's name is given in many cases, these records also throw light on the question of slave-holders in Medford. About 40 deaths are recorded between 1745 and 1780. It is rather curious that three of Colonel Royall's slaves died within a year, at the outbreak of the Revolution. Perhaps they were heartbroken at his departure. A few entries are given here by way of illustration:

"Peter, Son of Worcester & Flora, Negroes of Rev. Mr. Turell and Stephen Hall, Esq., Dyed Jan. 9, 1762.

"Plato, a Negro Servant of Hon. Isaac Royall Esq., drowned June 8, 1768.

"London, A Negro Man of the Widow Mary Bradshaw's Died Oct. 15, 1760.

"Cæsar, Negro Servant of Ebenezar Brooks of Medford and Zipporah negro Servant of Nathl Brown of Charlestown, married June 23, 1757."

As would be inferred, the number of slave owners was not large, and they were the leading men of the town: the Halls, Brookses and Willises, Dr. Simon Tufts, Rev. Mr. Turrell, and, above all, Col. Isaac Royall. This first Royall brought with him from Antigua a number of slaves and in 1737 petitioned that the duty on them be abated, but no further action than to lay it on the table was taken. He probably had at least fifteen at a time, and the "slave-quarters," so-called, have become an object of considerable historical interest. The entire number of persons holding slaves in the last half of the 18th century probably did not exceed thirty, the town records giving, indirectly, the names of twenty.[1] Not that our ancestors believed it wrong ; the names of Rev. Mr. Turrell and Deacon Benj. Willis would refute that. But economically it was unprofitable, and its ultimate extinction was doubtless the expectation of all who gave the subject any thought.

I have referred to Deacon Benj. Willis as a slaveholder. The following extract from his will may show the attitude of many masters towards those whom they held in service :

"I Benj. Willis . . . for and in consideration of good will which I do bear toward my Negro Woman Cloe of said Medford . . . have given and Granted . . . unto the said Cloe Imediately after my Decease Sundry of my household goods, Namely, as followeth — Viz. my Heifer comeing two years Old. . . .

also the Bedstead which she lays on and the little Bed which she says she Bought : also some Pewter (Viz.) two Pewter dishes & four Pewter Plates, one pint and one half pint Pewter Porringer, my smallest Iron Pottage Pot, two Iron Skillets, one pair of Andirons my Tin Still, the Spining wheel and — four chairs. [some chamber furniture] also I do give the said Cloe her Time and Set her Free Immediately after my Decease. . . .

Benj. Willis
October 5, 1767.

And the administrator of the estate of Benj. Willis credits himself :

"by pasturing the deceased's negro woman's heifer, £4, 10s.

"by sundry clothes for negro man Prince, £35."

---

[1] Partial list of slaveholders : Capt. Caleb Brooks, Ebenezer Brooks, Samuel Brooks, Capt. Thomas Brooks, —— Bishop, —— Brown, Mary Bradshaw, Andrew Hall, Jonathan Hall, Jr., Stephen Hall, Benj. Hall, Hugh Floyd, Jacob Polly, Zachariah Pool, Isaac Royall, Dr. Simon Tufts, Rev. Mr. Turrell, Stephen Willis, Deacon Benj. Willis, Francis Whitmore.

Similar kind treatment is mentioned by Miss Wild in her article on "Medford in the Revolution" in the case of Zachariah Pool, who left money in his will for the care of his slave, Scipio.

I have set forth, with little comment, the few brief facts relating to slavery in our town. Perhaps, on the whole, it is a matter of congratulation that the facts are so meagre. "Happy is the people whose annals are uninteresting!"

NOTES.

In the article on the Second Church and Mystic Church, which appeared in the April number of the Register, the date of Rev. Dr. Manning's death was incorrectly printed as occurring in 1872. It should have been *1882*.

The Committee on Membership is doing excellent work and has presented a number of applications for membership.

The fee for admission, including dues to the following annual meeting, has been reduced from three dollars to *two* dollars.

The Publication Committee requests the coöperation of every society member in the work of securing subscriptions for the current and past years of the Register.

Are *you* a subscriber?

DEDICATION OF MEMORIAL TABLET TO SARAH (BRADLEE) FULTON.

HELEN TILDEN WILD.

MORE than sixty years ago, in the gray of a November morning, the "Passing Bell" announced that a life was ended. Seventy, eighty, ninety, ninety-five, the bell tolled out, and many guessed that the aged mistress of the woodland farm, who only the day before had been about her usual tasks, was gone. A procession came slowly through the gate of the burying-place. There walked sons and daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, but the old friends who had known Sarah Fulton in her youth were gathered there before her in their narrow homes.

She was laid in the tomb belonging to Nathan Wait, her son-in-law, and in a few years only her descendants cherished the memory of her words and deeds.

The years brought changes to the town, but few to the little hamlet of the dead. Over the grass-grown mounds bent the lofty trees, and in their branches the birds sang and nested as their forebears had done for two hundred years.

There came a time when a wave of devotion to patriot ancestors swept over the land, and a chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was formed in the city of Medford, which took the name of Sarah Bradlee Fulton.

From its organization, the Chapter hoped to erect a tablet to her memory. On May twenty-sixth, nineteen hundred, this desire was granted and the dedication took place. With the hum of electric cars on one side and the puffing of locomotives on the other, how different the company gathered on that spring afternoon from the one that stood before that tomb in the village quiet of 1835! Two persons were present on both occasions, Mrs. Susan (Smith) Wait and her son Francis A. Wait, the former the widow of Nathan W. Wait, grandson of Mrs. Fulton.

The State Regent of Massachusetts, and the regents of twenty chapters, Daughters of the American Revolution, came to honor the patriot woman.

Descendants of Mrs. Fulton, representing the fourth, fifth, and sixth generations, were present. Only one of the third generation was living, Mr. John A. Fulton, of Cambridge, whom infirmity prevented from being present.

Residents of Medford, and the members of Sarah Bradlee Fulton Chapter, stood around, and as the strains of "Duke Street" rose with the words,

> "Great God of Nations! now to Thee
> Our hymn of gratitude we raise,"

all felt the solemnity of the hour.

The first company who gathered there were mourning for a departed mother, a woman who had been heroic in her efforts to provide the best for them, to deny herself, to keep her courage in adversity, and to bring up her ten children in the fear of the Lord.

The second assembly thanked God for her life and the service she rendered when her country needed every man and woman to found a glorious republic.

The tablet raised to her memory is a rough slab of native granite, set on a foundation of field stone.

Medford furnished the material and the workmen to complete the monument.

For fifty years Sarah Fulton passed back and forth over this stone, which was at the threshold of her home.

If the old stone could speak, what tales it could tell of the glad days and the sad days of her long and useful life.

Over it walked the bearers as they carried forth all that was mortal of John Fulton, the husband of her youth, and over it tripped the brides, as one by one her children went out to found homes of their own; over it pattered the little feet of her grandchildren, and over it she went to her long home.

Some thirty years ago the old house was burned, and beside the cellar wall only the door stone was left.

The property passed out of the family, but fortunately into the hands of one who venerates the past of his native town, and through his generosity the tablet was obtained.[1]

The dedication exercises were very simple. In the absence of the Chaplain of the Chapter (who was prevented by illness) the invocation was pronounced by Rev. Henry C. DeLong, pastor of the First Parish, of which Mrs. Fulton was a member.

The Regent of the Chapter, Mrs. Charles H. Loomis, spoke briefly, introducing the State Regent, who in beautiful language gave a history of the patriotic deeds of Mrs. Fulton, enjoining the audience, and through them the people of Massachusetts, to emulate the devotion to country which she possessed.

The Secretary of the Chapter read a poem written for the occasion by C. H. Loomis.

For the descendants of John and Sarah (Bradlee) Fulton, William Cushing Wait, Esq., addressed the assembly, speaking of his ancestress first as a mother, then as a patriot.

Rev. Millard F. Johnson, of the First Baptist Church, gave the benediction.

Wreathed in laurel tied with the colors of the Daughters of the American Revolution, facing the little cemetery, where many flags waved over graves of soldiers of the War of Independence, the tablet stands inscribed:

---

[1] Gen. Samuel C. Lawrence.

> SARAH BRADLEE FULTON
>
> 1740–1835
>
> A HEROINE OF THE REVOLUTION
>
> ERECTED BY THE
> SARAH BRADLEE FULTON CHAPTER, D. A. R.
> 1900

In the words of the Regent of the Chapter, "The memory of the lives of those noble women of a hundred years ago is a legacy to every American woman, a trust to be proud of, and one to be administered in the spirit of unselfish devotion, lofty purpose, and true womanhood."

THE Committee on Papers and Addresses has given an interesting series the past season:

November.—"The Second and Mystic Churches," by Charles Cummings.
December.—"The Homes of the Puritans," by Rev. T. F. Waters.
January.—"Benjamin Hall," by Helen T. Wild.
February.—"The Royall House and Farm," by John H. Hooper.
April.—"Paul Revere's Ride," with lantern slides, by W. C. Eddy.
May.—"Slavery in Medford," by Walter H. Cushing.

THE CUTTER FAMILY AND ITS CONNECTION WITH A TIDE MILL IN MEDFORD.

By William R. Cutter, Librarian, Woburn, Mass.

JOHN CUTTER (of the fifth generation from Richard Cutter), who was son of Gershom and Anna (Fillebrown) Cutter, owned (probably hired) a tide mill in Medford, afterwards occupied by his son Gershom Cutter. He was born in Menotomy, in that part of Cambridge now known as Arlington, Mass., Sept. 26, 1737, and died in Medford, where he long pursued the occupation of a miller, Oct. 16, 1788. His wife, Rebecca Hill, whose mother was Rebecca Cutter, and who herself was a granddaughter of Dea. John Cutter, of Menotomy, died in Medford, April 16, 1826. The first three children of this couple were born at Arlington, and the last seven were born in Medford. The first child, whose name was Rebecca, married William Cutter, a descendant of Ebenezer Cutter, a cousin of the Dea. John Cutter above mentioned, whose wife was Deacon Cutter's aunt. This William resided in Medford and Boston, where he died July 27, 1800. His widow died Aug. 2, 1852, aged eighty-seven, leaving children whose descendants were all of them well known in Medford, under the names of Sprague, Foster, and Cutter.

The son John, of the above-named John, born at Menotomy, July 26, 1770, married Mary, daughter of Stephen and Mary (Hill) Hall, of Medford, his cousin, being a granddaughter of Zachariah and Mary (Cutter) Hill, of Arlington. This man, known as Captain John Cutter, from his connection with the militia of Medford, died in Woburn, in that part known as Winchester, Mass., Nov. 23, 1825. His wife, who was born June 22, 1772, died Feb. 27, 1848. He assumed the charge of his father's tide or grist mill when his father died. His mother continued to occupy the old mill house for some two or three years after her husband's death, and then John married and dwelt there himself. He had quite a career as a miller in the West Indies and Canada, and really was quite an enterprising man. Not long after 1801 he built a wind-mill in Medford for grinding grain. At Medford also he became one of the earliest fishermen on an extensive scale in the Mystic river. For this right, in 1803, he paid sixty-five dollars, the privilege being more particularly near the "Dike" or "Labor in Vain," and he often piloted vessels at this time between Medford and Boston. He owned lighters and transported brick to the city, some of which are now seen in the buildings on Central wharf and Doctor Sharp's (now Charles street) church. In 1810, having purchased the grist mill of Caleb Richardson, in Woburn, latterly known as the Cutter's mill, in Cutter's village, in Winchester, he built a new structure with two run of stone, which he improved and occupied until his death. In 1817 he built a grist mill in North Chelsea run by tide water, which was occupied by his sons till the year 1830, when they sold the estate and removed to Winchester.

Zachariah Cutter, a brother of the last-named John, carried on the old tide mill in Medford for a number of years, and then went to Milton, Mass., and engaged in the same business. His death occurred in 1808.

Gershom Cutter, a brother of the above, after having had charge of the North mills in Boston, bought the old homestead mills in Medford, and building a new grist and saw mill in 1810, continued in the same occupation till his death in Medford, May 22, 1840. His son Gershom carried on his father's mill until 1845, when he purchased the Tufts mill on the Medford turnpike (now Mystic avenue), rebuilt that structure, which had been destroyed by fire, and which was again burned and rebuilt while in his charge. He was mainly engaged in the sawing of mahogany. Other brothers of this family ran grist and saw mills elsewhere than in Medford, and quite successfully.

The ancestors of these Cutters were also noted millers at present Arlington, but John of the fifth generation, with an account of whom we began this article, was the first of this name to begin the mill business in Medford. Few families have probably had so many millers in their family connection as the Cutters.

There is this record, which possesses some interest as illustrating the family occupation of the Cutters. It refers to the first John we have mentioned: " Funeral, Medford, 1788, Oct. 17 — Mr. John Cutter, the miller" —

The title to the Cutter tide mill in Medford appears to be as follows, according to the published history of Medford: In 1746 the tide mill near Sandy Bank was built, the first of its kind in that part of the town. Its origin arose in articles of agreement between a number of citizens, owners of the land, and a number of other citizens who were the undertakers of the enterprise. These articles were dated Feb. 20, 1746. Certain procedure was necessary to complete the undertaking, such as giving lands, and opening a straight road from the market to the mill site, and building a stone bridge over Gravelly creek for the mill's accommodation, the building of a dam, etc. The mill was to be ready for use before the last day of September, 1746. It was successfully completed and answered well its purpose. Timothy Waite, Jr., acquired possession at an early period in its history. Seth Blodget bought it of him on March 9, 1761. Matthew Bridge followed Blodget on Oct. 18, 1780. Mr. Bridge disposed of it to the Bishops — John, Senior, and John, Junior — in 1783 and 1784, and John Bishop, probably the junior, sold the whole to Gershom Cutter, who was followed in ownership by Samuel Cutter, George T. Goodwin, and Joseph Manning. These items regarding the Cutters differ a little from the statements of the preceding articles, which are based on facts received from descendants (mostly now deceased) of the John Cutter who first occupied the mill before the year 1788.

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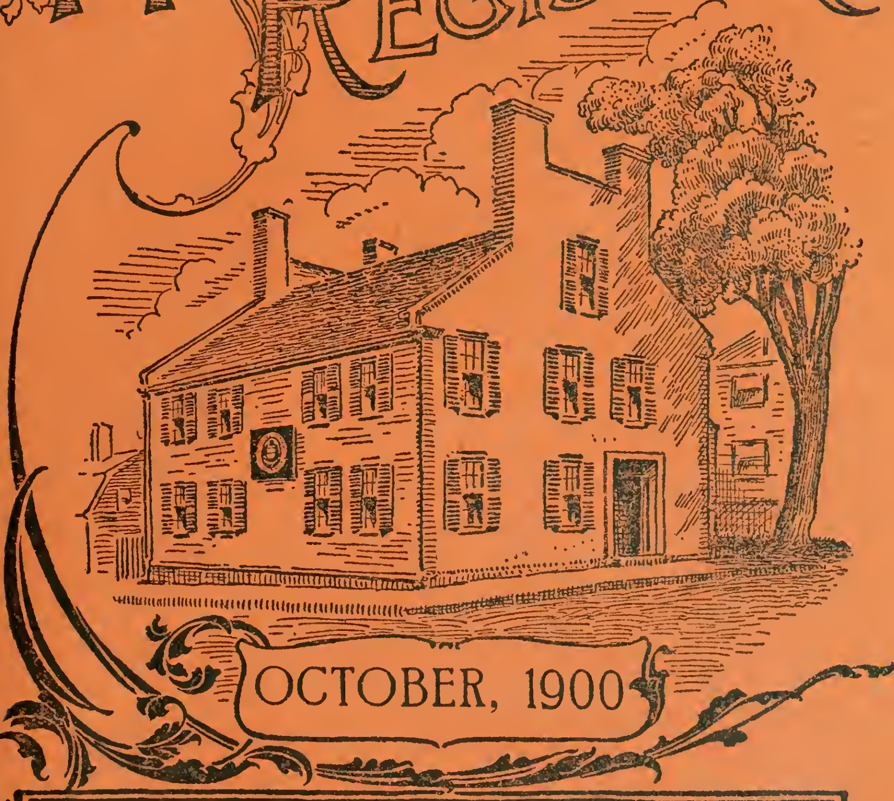

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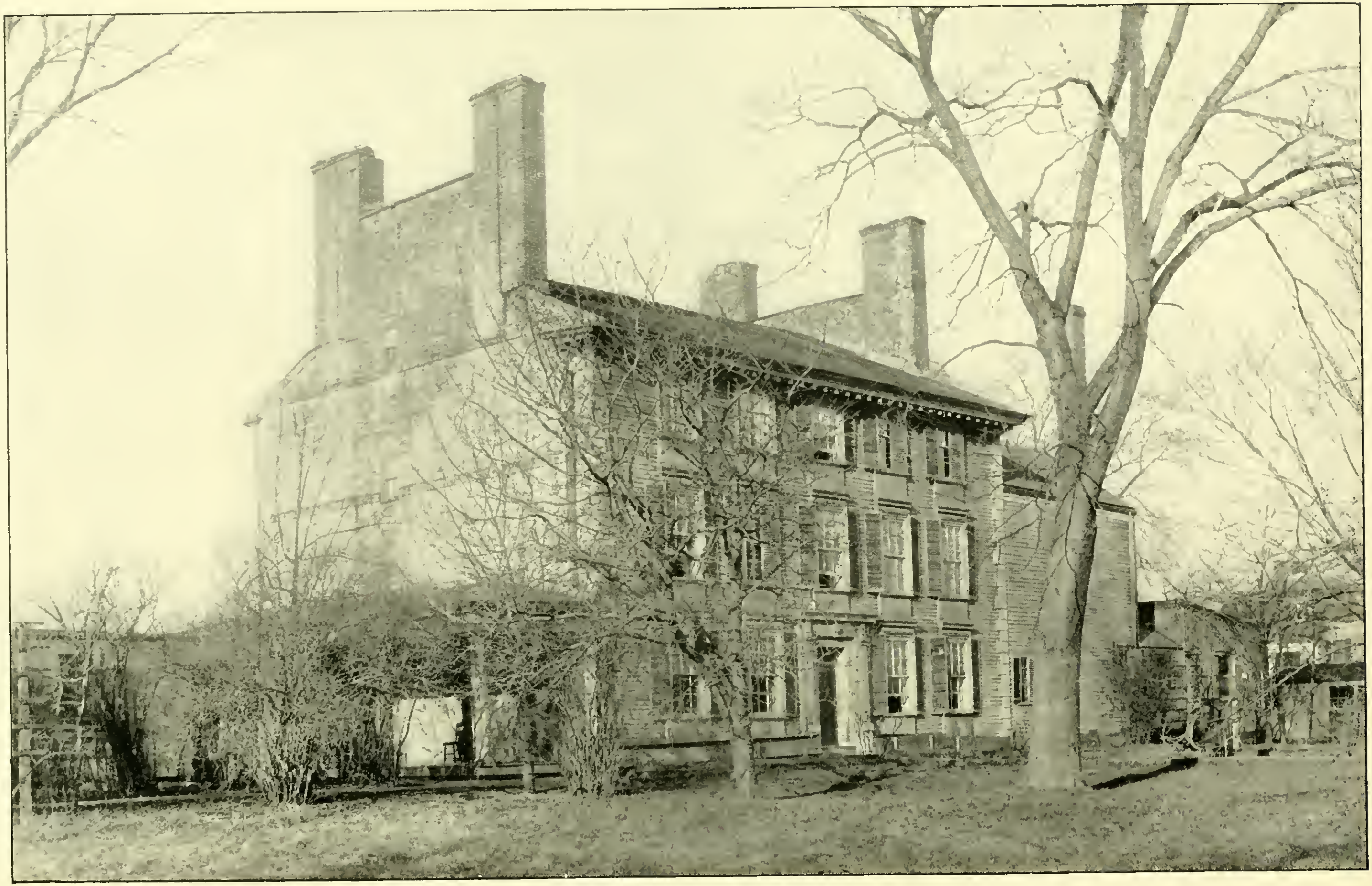

THE ROYALL HOUSE, MEDFORD, MASS.

The Medford Historical Register.

Vol. III. OCTOBER, 1900. No. 4.

THE ROYALL HOUSE AND FARM.[1]

By John H. Hooper.

[Read before the Medford Historical Society, Feb. 19, 1900.]

IT is not my purpose to go into a general history of the Royall estate, but I shall confine myself principally to the changes that have taken place in the construction of the mansion house, speaking briefly of the farm and of some of its earlier owners.

The greater portion of the Royall farm was part of a tract of 600 acres of land granted by the Court of Assistants to Governor John Winthrop, and known as the "Ten Hills." The records of the court say that, "Sept. 6, 1631, the Court of Assistants grant to Mr. Governour 600 acres of land, to be set forth by metes and bounds near his house at Mistick to enjoy it, to him and his heirs forever." There are two suggestions as to the origin of the name of "Ten Hills;" one is that ten hills were comprised within its limits, and the other that ten hills could be counted around it. The latter suggestion is the one adopted in R. C. Winthrop's edition of the life and letters of John Winthrop. The governor's house was situated on the way leading from Charlestown to Mistick ford (now Broadway in Somerville and Main and South streets in Medford), and near the junction of Broadway and Main street, within the limits of the city of Somerville. Prior to this grant by the Court of Assistants, the governor had taken possession of a portion of the land and had built himself a house. July 4, 1631, he launched his bark, called the "Blessing of the Bay," which was built near his house on the banks of the Mistick river. The whole country hereabouts was covered with a heavy growth of timber, except in such places as had been burnt over by the Indians for the purposes of cultivation.

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[1] Drawing and plans were made by Charles E. Hooper, of New York City.

An illustration of the condition of the country is afforded by an incident that happened to the governor, and which is related in Winthrop's history of New England: "Oct. 11, 1631, the Governour being at his house at Mistick, walked out after supper, and took a piece in his hand, supposing he might see a wolf (for they came daily about the house and killed swine, calves, & etc.), and being about half a mile off, it grew suddenly dark, so as in coming home, he mistook his path and went till he came to a little house of Sagamore John, which stood empty. There he stayed, and having a piece of match in his pocket, (for he always carried about him, match and a compass, and in the summer snake weed), he made a good fire near the house, and lay down upon some old mats, which he found there, and so spent the night, sometimes walking by the fire, sometimes singing psalms and sometimes getting wood, but could not sleep. It was (through God's mercy) a warm night, but a little before day it begun to rain, and, having no cloak, he made shift by a long pole to climb up into the house. In the morning there came thither an Indian Squaw, but perceiving her before she opened the door, he barred her out, yet she staid there a great while, essaying to get in. At last she went away, and he returned safe home. His servants having been much perplexed for him, and having walked about, and shot off pieces, and hallooed in the night, but he heard them not." The dwelling-place of Sagamore John, as shown on Wood's map, published in 1635, was on the westerly slope of Walnut Tree hill (now College hill), not far from where the Indian remains were found a few years ago, by employees of the Mystic Water Works in building a street. These remains were found where new

Waterworks street (now Capen street) connected with old Waterworks street (a part of which is now called Emery street, and the part connecting with the new street being now discontinued); and in all probability the reason why the governor could not hear the shouts and guns of his servants was because Walnut Tree hill with its heavy growth of walnut trees was in a direct line between the house of Sagamore John and his own house. Governor Winthrop died in 1649, and the farm came into the possession of his son, John Winthrop, Jr., of Hartford, Conn. John, Jr., died in 1676, and his heirs sold the farm, May 11, 1677, to Mrs. Elizabeth Lidgett, for the sum of 3,300 pounds. Mrs. Lidgett sold to her son, Lieut.-Col. Charles Lidgett, Oct. 13, 1677, one undivided half part of the farm, and Feb. 10, 1685, the remaining half part. Prior to the sale to Mrs. Lidgett, John Winthrop, Jr., sold in 1670, to Benanuel Bowers, about four acres of marsh land, now situated in Medford, and known as Labor In Vain point. It was through this piece of marsh land that the highway or canal was cut in 1761.

Lieut.-Col. Charles Lidgett was the friend and adherent of Sir Edmund Andros, the first royal governor of New England during the "Inter-Charter Period." The assertation of Governor Andros that the abrogation of the first Colonial Charter reinvested all land titles in the crown, caused widespread consternation. Some proprietors endeavored to strengthen their titles by procuring deeds from the Indians, which acts brought forth from the governor a criticism of the Indian signatures, "That their hand was no more worth then the scratch of a Bears paw." He confirmed his friend Colonel Lidgett in his title to the "Ten Hills" and also granted him the "Stinted Pasture." (The Stinted Pasture was a tract of land containing about 300 acres, bounded southerly on the Menotomy road (Broadway); westerly on the Menotomy river (Alewive brook); northerly on Mistick river and easterly on the

Ten Hills.) Colonel Lidgett then began to prosecute the rightful owners of this pasture for cutting wood and other alleged trespasses. After the downfall of the Andros administration, in 1689, Colonel Lidgett was arrested and thrown into prison, from which he was released on bail. He went to England in February, 1689–90, and died there in 1698.

In 1692 (there are reasons for fixing this as the date, although there is no record of the transfer) that portion of the Ten Hills now situated in Medford came into the possession of Lieut.-Gov. John Usher by his wife Elizabeth (Lidgett) Usher, sister to Col. Charles Lidgett. Mr. Usher was a counsellor and treasurer under the Andros administration, and was afterwards called to an account upon charges of raising money in an arbitrary manner during his term of office.

In 1692 he was appointed lieutenant-governor of New Hampshire. He held the office five years, and at the expiration of the term, in 1697, removed from Portsmouth, N.H., to his Charlestown (now Medford) farm, where he died Sept. 5, 1726.

Mr. Usher added to his estate by purchasing parts of the Stinted Pasture that adjoined his farm. It will be remembered that this pasture was granted by Governor Andros to Colonel Lidgett, but the grant became void upon the downfall of the governor's administration. In the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds, Book 14, p. 227, may be found a mortgage deed (also a plan of the estate) to John Wainwright, signed by John and Elizabeth Usher, an abstract of which is as follows: "Part of the farm called Ten Hills, now partly in the tenure, occupation, or improvement of the said John Usher . . . and partly in the tenure or occupation of Joseph Whittemore, tenant of the said John Usher. Containing 454 acres of land, or 309 acres of upland and 145 acres of marsh . . . together with the brick house in which the said John Usher now dwells, and the house in which the said Joseph Whittemore, the tenant now dwells." . . . The brick house mentioned above was the Royall house (in part), and the house of Joseph Whittemore the tenant stood where the Mystic house now stands. In February, 1732–3, Elizabeth Usher and others, heirs of John Usher sold to Col. Isaac Royall their estate in Charlestown (now Medford) containing 504 acres 3 roods and 23 rods, for the sum of 10,350 pounds 7 shillings and 9 pence. Colonel Royall came to reside upon his estate in 1737, and died there in 1739. (He was born in 1672, at North Yarmouth, Maine.) His son, Col. Isaac Royall (born in Antigua, in 1719), succeeded to the estate, which he enlarged by various purchases, and continued to reside thereon until the breaking out of the Revolutionary war, when he became a refugee. (He left Medford April 16, 1775, and died in England in 1781.) The Royall estate was confiscated by the General Court, and the Commonwealth held possession until 1806, when it was released for a nominal consideration ($1) to Mr. Robert Fletcher, who purchased the rights of the Royall heirs for the sum of 16,000 pounds. Since that time it has been laid out into house lots and sold to various owners. All that now remains intact of this magnificent estate is the mansion house and slave quarters, with about four acres of land.

For plans of the Winthrop and Usher farms see Vol. I., No. 4, pages 123-5, of the Medford Historical Register.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE ROYALL HOUSE.

The first step in the evolution of the Royall house was a building forty-five feet in length and eighteen feet in width, two stories in height; two rooms upon each floor, making, including the garrets, a six-roomed house.[1] The floors of the garrets being about three feet below the top of the plate made these rooms fairly good ones. Two dormer windows on the east slope of the roof furnished light and air for the garrets, and in the centre of the building, over the stairway, as high up as the ridge of the roof, was another dormer window, which furnished light and air for the upper entry and staircase ; the position of the entries or hallways was in the middle of the building as at present. There were two chimneys, one at each end of the building. The rear and end walls were of brick, every other course of brick being a course of headers ; the front or east wall was of wood ; the position of the door and windows in this front wall were as in the present building (see old sketch). In the cellar may be seen what was once an opening through the rear wall. This was the doorway leading to the outside ; its position and its use are plainly visible (see a, cellar plan).

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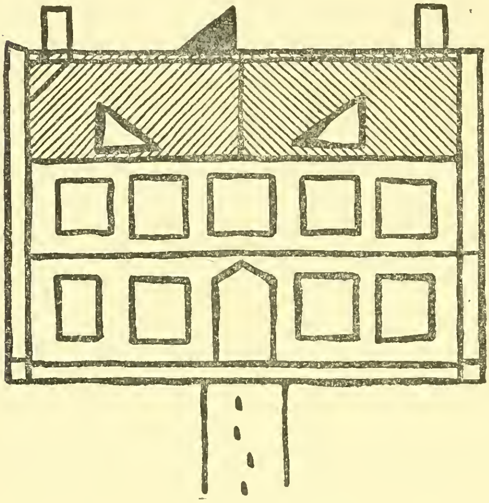
[1] The original house is shown on plans in solid black.

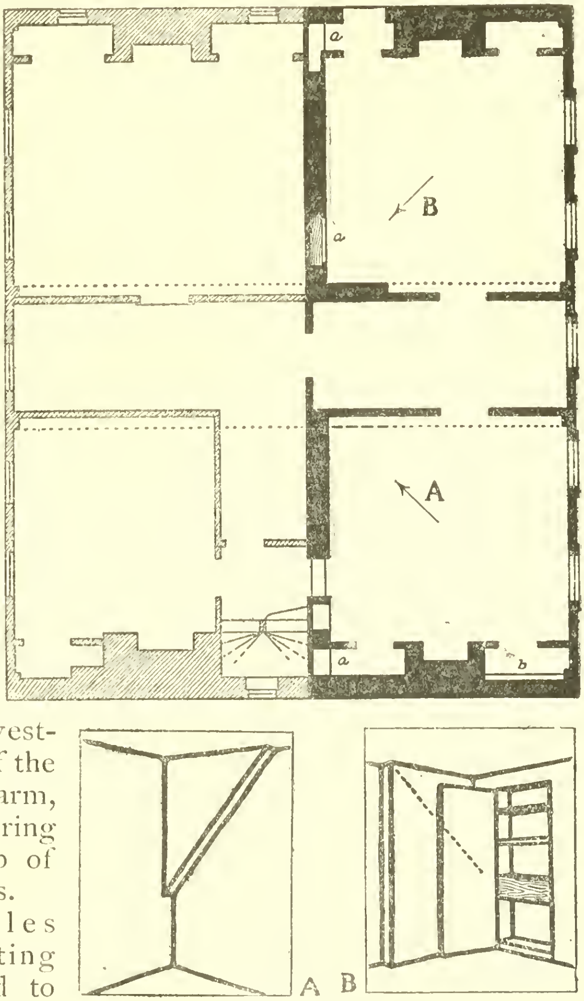


Sketch of Building.

From old plan dated October, 1732, recorded in Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds.

The original rafters of the west slope of the roof are still in place and can be seen in the garret (see a, section). All but two of them have been cut off above the ceiling of the third story so as not to interfere with the finish of the rooms in that story. The two that still remain entire are built into the partitions on either side of the entry way (see A and B, third-floor plan) ; their positions can be easily traced.

The old west wall, except such portions as have been removed to allow of doorways and staircases, still remains. The old plate on the top of this wall upon which the rafters rested can be seen in the closets of the third story (see *a a a*, third-floor plan).

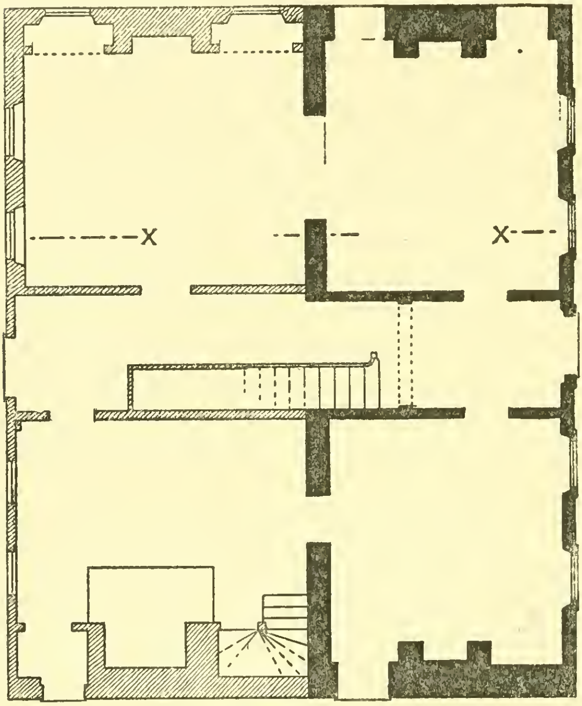


THIRD FLOOR.

The date of the construction of this building is unknown. It is far more ancient than it has generally been supposed to be, and was probably built for the use of the tenant who occupied the westerly portion of the Ten Hills farm, very likely during the ownership of the Winthrops.

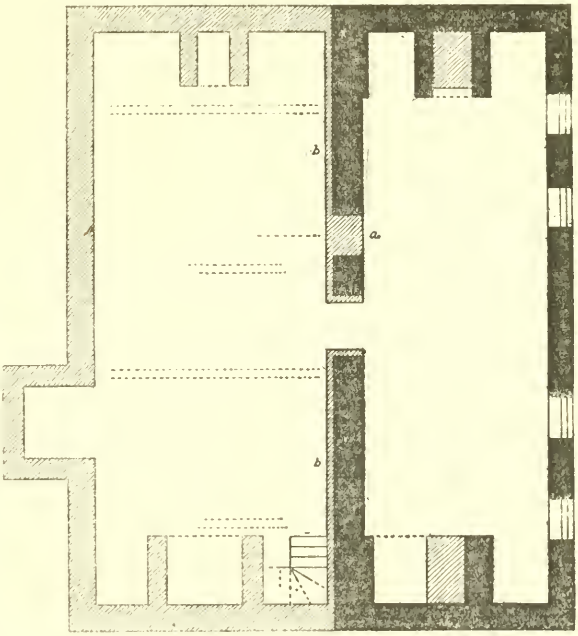
Col. Charles Lidgett, writing from England to his agent, Mr. Francis Foxcroft, under date of Nov. 5, 1690, speaks of his tenant, Thomas Marrable, who occupied a portion of the Ten Hills farm.

From the correspondence between Colonel Lidgett and his agent it is inferred that Thomas Marrable occupied the westerly portion of the Ten Hills farm on which the Royall house now stands. No doubt he lived in the old house we are now considering. Mr. Wyman in his "History of Charlestown Estates" says "that Thomas Marrable lived at Usher's farm."



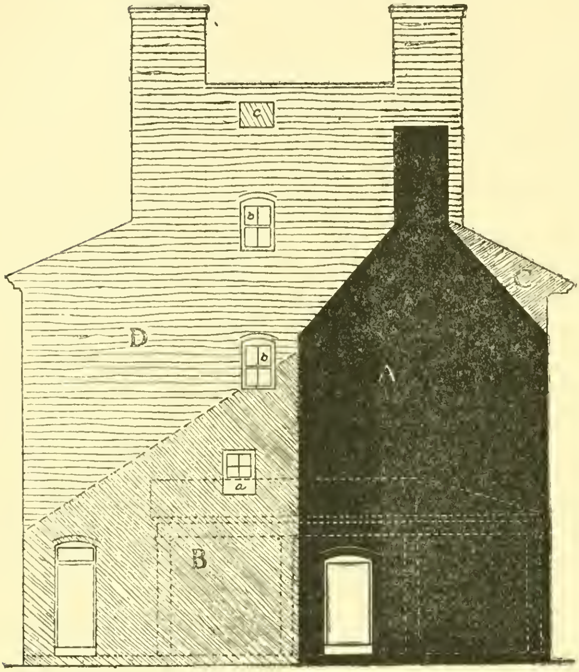
First Floor.

Such was probably the building that stood here at the time Lieutenant-Governor Usher took possession of the estate in 1692. It is probable, however, that before or soon after he removed here from Portsmouth, N.H., in 1697, he made an addition to the building, as the old structure must have been entirely unsuited to a family of the wealth and social standing of Governor Usher's. The addition supposed to have been made at this time enlarged the ground floor to its present dimensions. The end walls were of brick and the west wall of wood. As a matter of course, the cellar was enlarged at the same time. In excavating for this new part of the cellar, the stone foundation of the old part of the building was exposed, and in order to support the floor timbers of the new part, and to strengthen and cover up the irregularities of the old wall, it was lined up with brick (see b b, cellar plan), thus making the division wall between the two cellars of great thickness. The roof was a single pitch, running from the eaves of the old building down to the height of a single story on the back or west side (see B, south end). This is the old familiar style so common in those days, and known as a leanto. This addition was twenty feet in width and forty-five feet in length. A single window in the south wall that lighted the back stairway, and also the low chamber under the roof, can still be seen (see A, second-floor plan, also a, south end). In this south wall can also be seen a perpendicular line showing where the brickwork of the addition was butted against the old building. In fact, the whole outline of the original building can be plainly seen on the south elevation of the present structure.



CELLAR.

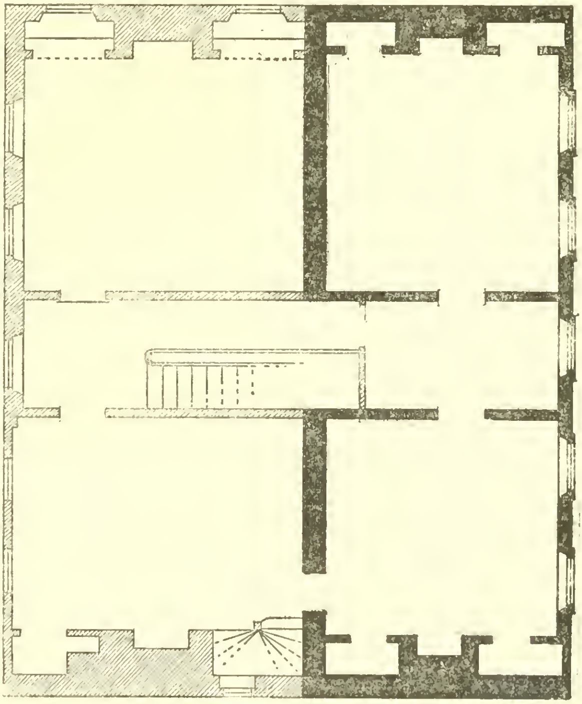
I am free to admit that the foregoing description of what is assumed to be the second step in the evolution of this building is largely problematical, but I shall submit the evidence upon which this assumption is drawn, and ask of our readers a careful analysis of the same. *First*, I will refer to the window already spoken of in the south elevation that shows just above the roof of the porch, a part of which was originally below the roof of this porch. It is not in line with the other windows in the stories above (see b b, south end), and there appears to be no reason whatever why all these windows should not have been placed in line with each other, provided that they had all been constructed at the same time. It will also be noticed that this lower window has a straight head, while those above have segment-heads, thus indicating a different period of construction. The probabilities are that this lower window was placed on one side of the stairway, so as to throw as much light as possible into the room under the roof of the leanto, while at the time the windows in the stories above were constructed no



South End, showing the Several Stages of Construction.

such reason for thus lighting the chambers existed, as they had plenty of light from the rear or courtyard side of the building, and they were therefore placed near the centre of the stairway so as to light both the upper and lower parts of the same.

Second, If an examination be made of the large cracks that exist on each side of the doorway in the west or courtyard side of the building, caused by the shrinkage of the finish around this doorway, it will be found that underneath the panel work that now forms the outside of the present building can be seen the ends of clapboards that once formed the outside of a former building. It is believed that this clapboarded wall was the wall of the leanto, and that when the building was enlarged to its present dimensions at a still later period, the present panel work, pilasters, and other finish were put on over the old clapboarded wall.



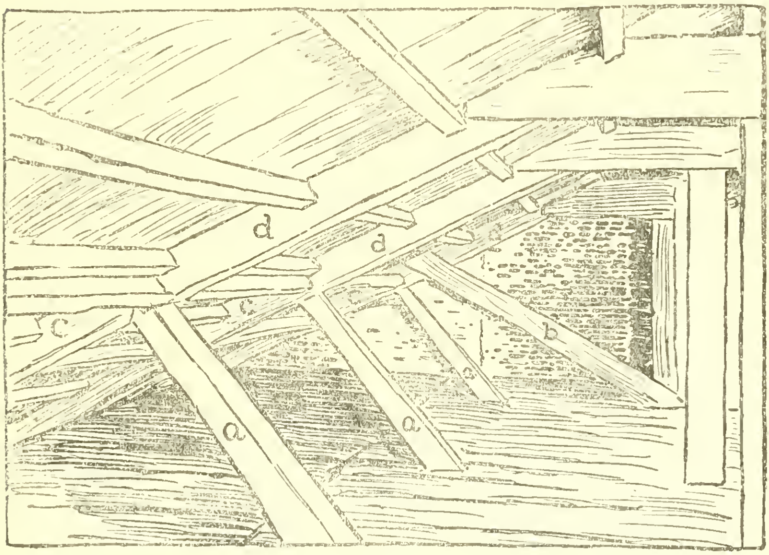
Second Floor.

Third, Second-hand timber, or timber that had been used in some former structure, was used in framing the roof of the present building. It is hardly possible that when the building assumed its present shape, with timber as cheap as it must have been in those days, the builder purchased old material for its construction. Without doubt this old material came from the roof of the leanto, the timbers of which would have been long and large enough to have made the present roof timbers.

I have said that in all probability Lieutenant-Governor Usher made this addition. Yet there is no positive evidence of it. It may have been done by Colonel Royall at the time he raised the east half of the roof, as will be hereinafter described. Tradition (not always a safe guide) says that Governor Usher built the house, and it was afterwards enlarged by Colonel Royall.

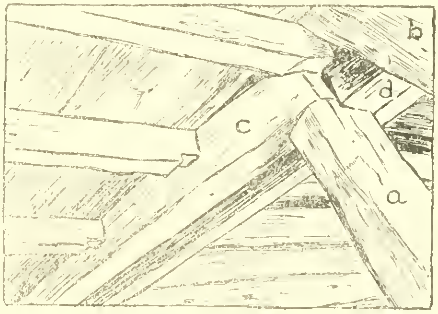
This, then, was possibly the condition of the building at the time of its purchase by the senior Colonel Royall in 1733. Colonel Royall came to reside upon his estate in 1737 and died here in 1739. It is probable that between the time of the purchase and the time of the taking up of his residence here he made additional changes in the dwelling-house, and also built a portion of the house called the "slave quarters" for the use of his slaves.

The third step in the evolution of this building consisted in raising the east slope of the roof (see C, south end) so as to give an additional elevation to the east or front wall of the building, and to allow of upright windows in the third story, giving the front of the building its present appearance. There was no other apparent change. The thickness of the extra height of the brickwork in the end walls occasioned by this change was less than in the old wall. This can be seen in the closet in the south-east room of the third story (b). We are fortunate in possessing a plan of this estate made just previous to and while negotiations for its sale to Colonel Royall were in progress. This plan is on record in the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, and shows the front elevation of the building as it then existed. We are also fortunate in possessing evidence in the building itself that this was the only change that took place at that time in the main part of the house.



This alteration will be more fully described in the next and final step of the evolution of the mansion house.

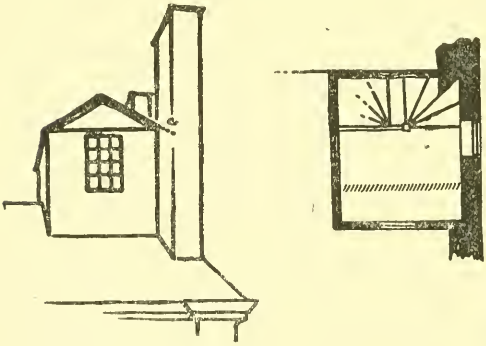
In the fourth and final stage of construction the building assumed its present fine proportions, and also its elaborate finish both inside and outside. I am quite sure that this was done during the ownership of the second Colonel



THE FRAMING OF THE ROOF.

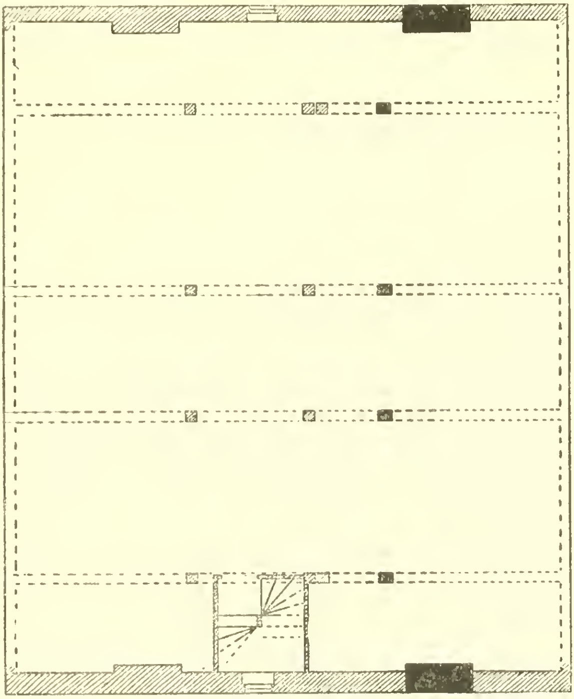
a a a, Old rafters; *b*, Brace inserted to relieve strain after end rafters were cut off; *c c c*, Front rafters of the third stage of construction. *d d d*, Splice made to continue *c c c*, and shape the front slope of the present roof.

Royall. As has been before stated, the first Colonel Royall lived but two years on his Charlestown (now Medford) estate. And it is hardly possible that after making the changes previously described he should in so short a time have proceeded to make another and a still greater change in the appearance and size of the building. In this last stage of construction the end walls and chimneys were carried up to their present height (see D, south end), as was also the west or rear wall; the front slope of the roof remained as it was left by the previous stage of construction; the roof timbers in the new part of the east slope of the roof were spliced on to the old ones (see illustrations), the pitch of the roof remaining the same. The roof timbers on the west slope of the roof are of second-hand materials and in one piece. The boarding of the roof runs from the ridge to the eaves, and at the point on the east slope of where the roof timbers are spliced the boarding of the new part is butted against that of the old part throughout the entire length of the building. A part of the old ridge-board is still attached to the boarding (b, section). Three new windows appeared in the south end of the building, one of which was in the wall above the roof, and was used as a lookout from the cupola that was on the south end of the roof directly over the back stairway. This cupola is shown in sketch. As a matter of course, this suggestion as to its appearance is largely ideal, there being no positive evidence to guide us. Granted the



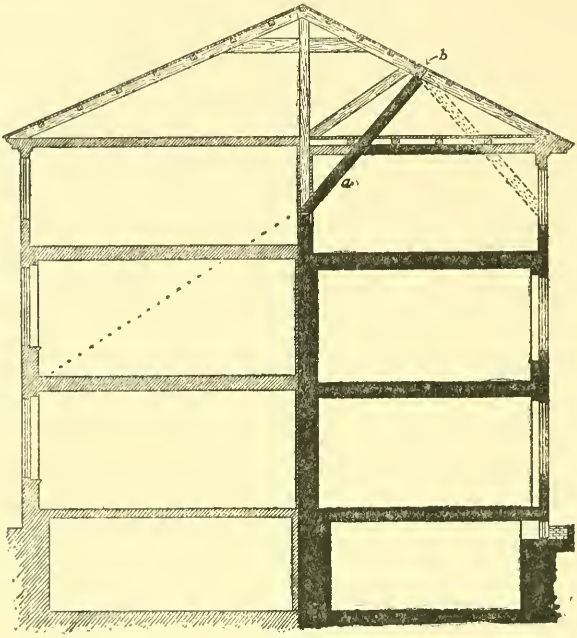
CUPOLA.

existence of a cupola, of which there is undoubted evidence, there must have been windows on the north, east, and west sides as well as in the south side through the brick wall. There are marks on the east side of the southwest chimney that would seem to indicate that the pitch of the roof was as shown in the drawing, that is, at a right angle with that of the main building (see a, sketch). The stairs leading to the cupola are still in position. The lookout window has been closed up (its position can be seen at the present time, see c, south end), and the cupola has disappeared. The north end of the building is covered with clapboards. These clapboards have a moulded edge, while those upon the front and rear of the house have a square edge. The lower windows in this north end are furnished with heavy outside shutters, and those in the upper story and garret are hung on hinges and swing outwards. The walls in the northwest rooms of the first and second stories are about six inches higher than the



Attic.

remaining rooms in the same stories. I have entirely ignored the wooden addition on the north end of the mansion house, believing it to be of more modern construction.

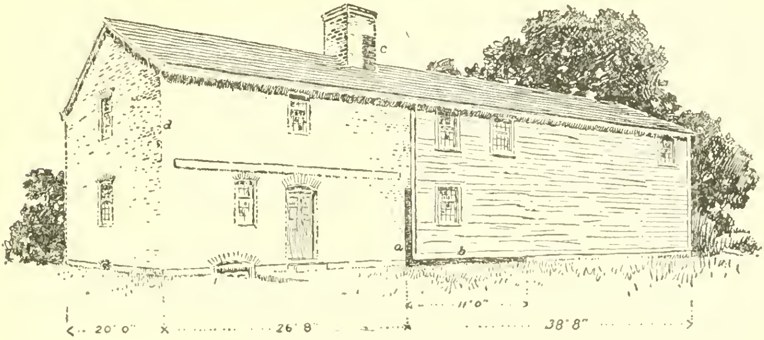


SECTION.

I am inclined to believe that the porch upon the south side was built by the second Colonel Royall.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE "SLAVE QUARTERS."

Standing to the left and slightly in the rear of the mansion house is a building familiarly known as the "slave quarters." This building, like its more aristocratic neighbor, has been evolved from a very small beginning. The first step in its evolution was a brick and wooden building twenty feet in width, its length unknown (from an examination of the south foundation wall it appears to have been about eleven feet, see b, sketch), one story in height, the west wall only being of brick. The chimney was built against and into this west wall, and what is believed to be a portion of this chimney can be seen above the roof of the present building (see c, sketch). The use to which this building was put is unknown, and although it is not like the mansion house and stable shown upon the plan of the estate made in October, 1732, still it is probable that it was in existence at that time. It is quite likely that the senior Colonel Royall built some portion of the present building. Bringing with him from the island of Antigua twenty-seven slaves, he must have required more accommodations for them than this first building would furnish. The next step in the evolution of the slave quarters was the brick portion of the present building. This building is two stories in height and contains two rooms, with a deep cellar under the whole. The lower room, with its ample fireplace and brick oven, was the kitchen, where tradition says the food of the slaves was prepared. The upper room was probably used as a sleeping-apartment. It will be seen that in the construction of this addition the brickwork on the north and south sides was butted



Slave Quarters.

against the brick end of the first building, thus making the old brick wall a part of the new addition (a, sketch). The brickwork in the south side and west end of this structure has in every fourth course a course of headers. This is the same construction as appears in the new part of the mansion house. The bond in the north brick wall is the old Flemish bond, every course alternate headers and stretchers. The third step in the evolution of this building is the wooden portion of the present building. There is little of interest in this addition except that a small portion of the cellar has been partitioned off by a solid stone wall and lighted by two small windows, one on each side. A doorway connects it with the cellar under the brick addition. This cellar may possibly be the dungeon tradition speaks of as a place that once existed for the punishment of the slaves. The chimney of this addition (this may be the original chimney) is laid up against the chimney of the brick addition, and the two united at the top so as to give the appearance of a single chimney. On the west side of the brick portion of the building was at one time a wooden addition two stories in height, length unknown, the only visible proof of this addition being the mortar that still adheres to the brick wall on the north and south sides, where the outside finish lapped over on the brick building, and the joints of which were plastered over to keep out the weather (see d, sketch). This is the same arrangement that exists in the present building, where the brick and wooden parts are joined together. As has been before stated, the dates of the construction of these several additions are unknown. I have endeavored to show what this building is and has been, and will leave our readers to draw their own conclusions. Taken altogether it is one of the most interesting relics of slavery in Massachusetts that can be found within the limits of the Commonwealth.

The aspect of the place is thus described by Samuel Adams Drake, author of the "History of Middlesex

County." (This description was written many years ago. Changes have taken place since then ; a portion of the inside embellishments have been removed, and the summer house torn down.)

"The brick quarters which the slaves occupied are situated on the south side of the mansion and front upon the courtyard, one side of which they enclose. These have remained unchanged, and are, we believe, the last visible relics of slavery in New England. The deep fireplace where the slaves prepared their food is still there, and the roll of slaves has certainly been called in sight of Bunker hill, though never on its summit.

"At either end of the building the brick wall, furnished with a pair of stout chimneys, rises above the pitched roof, the cornice and corners are relieved by ornamental woodwork, while the west face is panelled, and further decorated with fluted pilasters. On this side, too, the original windows are seen.

"The Royall house stood in the midst of grounds laid out in elegant taste and embellished with fruit-trees and shrubbery. These grounds were separated from the highway by a low brick wall, now demolished. The gateway opening upon the grand avenue was flanked by wooden posts. Farther to the right was the carriage drive, on either side of which massive stone gate-posts, as antique in appearance as anything about the old mansion; seventy paces back from the road, along the broad gravelled walk, bordered with box, brings you to the door.

"Behind the house, as we view it, was an enclosed garden of half an acre or more, with walks, fruit-trees, and a summer house at the farther extremity. No doubt this was the favorite resort of the family and their guests.

"This summer house, a veritable curiosity in its way, is placed upon an artificial mound with two terraces, and is reached by broad flights of red sandstone steps. It is octagonal in form, with a bell-shaped roof, surmounted by a cupola, on which is placed a figure of Mercury.

"Without lingering in the hall of entrance farther than to mark the elaborately carved balusters, and the panelled wainscot, we pass into the suite of apartments at the right hand, the reception-rooms proper of the house. These were divided in two by an arch, in which folding-doors were concealed ; and from floor to ceiling the walls were panelled in wood, the panels being of single pieces, some of them a yard in breadth. In the rear apartment, and opening to the north, were two alcoves, each flanked by fluted pilasters, on which rested an arch enriched with mouldings and carved ornaments. Each recess had a window furnished with seats, so inviting for a *tête-à-tête*, where the ladies of the household sat with their needlework ; these windows were sealed up in winter. The heavy cornice formed an elaborate finish to the truly elegant saloon.

"The second floor was furnished with four chambers, all opening on a spacious and airy hall. Of these the northwest room only demands special description. It had alcoves similar to those already mentioned in the apartment underneath, but instead of panels the walls were finished above the wainscot with a covering of leather on which were embossed in gorgeous colors flowers, birds, pagodas, and the concomitants of a Chinese paradise. On this side the original windows, with the small glass and heavy frames, still remain."

It seems desirable that this old historic mansion should be acquired by some society which would restore and preserve it as one of our most valued landmarks. Unless something of the kind is soon done, it is feared by those who are interested in its preservation that it is doomed to destruction. It requires even now extensive repairs, and it is only as a matter of sentiment that the expense of such repairs would be justified. The Medford Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution have for some time been considering ways and means for its purchase. It has already acquired the material of which the summer house was constructed, with the view of its restoration at some future day. The object this Society has in view should have the hearty endorsement and support of every person who is interested in the preservation of our old colonial landmarks, not only those who reside in the city of Medford, but also those from other parts of the Commonwealth, as this subject is of more than local interest.

WILLIAM HENRY WHITMORE.

By Geo. A. Gordon, Secretary N. E. Historic Genealogical Society.

THE recent death of William H. Whitmore, city registrar of Boston, recalls the history of a family[1] resident in Medford during the provincial period, whence they departed to the valley of the Kennebec, returning to Boston, as merchants, during the now expiring century.

Mr. Whitmore was born at Dorchester, Sept. 6, 1836, and died at Boston June 14, 1900. He was a son of Charles O. and Lovice (Ayres) Whitmore, and was educated in the public schools and was graduated at the Boston Latin School in the class of 1851. In 1867 Harvard and Williams Colleges conferred the degree of A.M. upon Mr. Whitmore.

Mr. Whitmore entered upon a business life in Boston and was connected with successful firms. He early showed a masterful interest in antiquarianism, particularly in the departments of history and genealogy. He was painstaking, industrious, and accurate as a collector, and, more than ordinary, distinguished as a writer and author. His contributions to American and English magazines were numerous, and attracted the attention of minds cultivated and informed on such subjects. He was one of the founders in 1857 of the "Historical Magazine," in 1858 of the Prince Society, in 1863 of the "Heraldic Journal," and in 1879 of the Antiquarian Society, the predecessor of the present Bostonian Society.

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[1] Mr. Whitmore's lineage ran :

1. Francis Whitmore, of Cambridge, and Isabel Park.
2. John Whitmore, of Medford, and Rachel Eliot.
3. John Whitmore, of Medford, and Mary Lane.
4. Francis Whitmore, of Bowdoinham, and Mary Hall.
5. John Whitmore, of Bath, and Huldah Crooker.
6. William D. Whitmore, of Boston, and Rhoda Whittemore.
7. Charles O. Whitmore, of Boston, and Lovice Ayres.
8. William Henry Whitmore.

Mr. Whitmore became, in 1854, a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society and served on its various committees and boards of directors and as an editor of the "Register," to which he contributed a large number of valuable and important articles and genealogies, many of which have been reprinted. He contributed, in 1855, the genealogical portion of Brooks' "History of Medford." In literary lines, wholly or in part, he edited in 1860 the works of William Mackworth Praed; in 1865 the Hutchinson Papers; in 1867 the Dunton Letters; in 1868 the American Genealogist; in 1869–74 the Andros Tracts; in 1870 the Massachusetts Civil List; in 1878 Copp's Hill Epitaphs; in 1882 the "History of the Old State House." These are esteemed standards and do not include all of Mr. Whitmore's publications.

Mr. Whitmore exercised a large and influential interest in the municipal affairs of Boston. For eight or ten years he was a member of the City Council, and in 1879 was its president. He was instrumental in establishing in 1875 the Boston Record Commission, of which he continued a member till death. In 1892 he was elected city registrar of births, deaths, and marriages, where he remained until his decease. He organized the department on an efficient basis and conducted it with signal success.

Mr. Whitmore was a member of the Massachusetts

Historical Society and edited, 1875–82, for their Collections, Sewall's Diary.

Mr. Whitmore passed much of his boyhood in Medford, with his grandfather, John Ayres, of the Continental Sugar Refinery, and though never a resident, was widely known and esteemed in our city. He compiled and wrote the paper on Medford in Drake's "History of Middlesex County," 1880.

This is not the time or the occasion for a complete and exhaustive retrospect of Mr. Whitmore's career. Suffice it to say that a learned, scholarly, and gifted man has passed away, on whom his fellow-citizens conferred tokens of confidence, esteem, and respect during life, whom his associates in historical research regarded highly for his able, careful, exact, and discriminating labors through many years, and whose example remains to encourage not only the societies to which in generous measure he devoted time and talent, but also this and all other associations, whose object is the promotion of researches for the establishment of historic truths.

MEMBERS.

Number previously reported, 246.

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Geo. L. Batchelder.
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N. Penrose Hallowell.
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William H. Winkley.
Lombard Williams.

A SENTIMENT.

We hold him wise who ever strives
  To glean the best of Wisdom's store ;
And from the tasks by others wrought,
  Himself to do the more.

C. H. L.

The Committee on Papers and Addresses has arranged the following program for the fifth year, 1900–1901.

October 15. — Social Meeting.

November 19. — "The Separation of Church and State in Massachusetts." Mr. Charles M. Ludden.

December 17. — "The Old Fire Department of Medford." Mr. Samuel G. Jepson.

January 21. — "John Winthrop and His Home on the Mystic." Mr. Charles D. Eliot, President of the Somerville Historical Society.

February 18. — "The Universalist Church of Medford." Mr. Parker R. Litchfield.

March 18. — The Annual Meeting.

April 15. — "Elizur Wright: His Life and Work." Miss Ellen M. Wright.

May 20. — "Old Ship Street; Some of its Houses, Ships, and Characters." (Illustrated.) Mr. Fred. H. C. Woolley.

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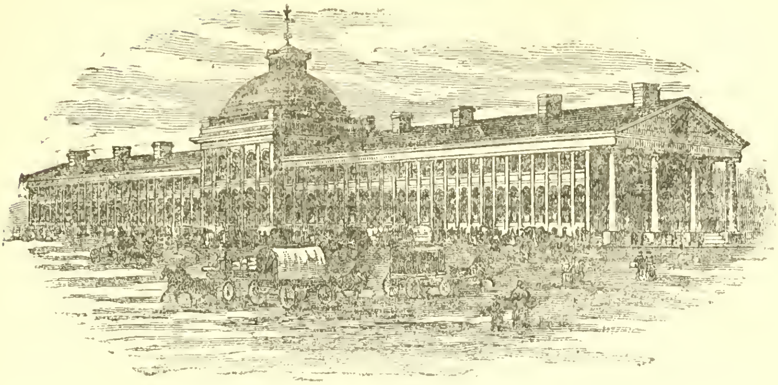

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"THE FORD AT MISTICK."

By John H. Hooper.

THE place selected by the early travellers for crossing the river by means of a ford was the most easterly point where the river itself could be reached without crossing the marshes.

Most of the travelling in those early days for any considerable distance was on horseback, and as the marshes were too soft to support the weight of a horse, it was necessary to select a fording place where a firm gravel deposit formed the banks and bed of the river.

The place selected on the south side of the river was a little west of the northerly end of Walnut street, and west of and adjoining the estate of Mr. Chandler on South street. It is evident that this estate encroaches somewhat upon the original landing place. On the northerly side of the river the landing place was nearly opposite the location of the old high school building on High street.

The southerly end of Pasture hill at that point formed the bank of the river. Persons travelling towards the north and west would leave the river and pass up the steep bank to the left in front of the location of the public library building, and those travelling eastward would turn to the right along the gravel beach to a point near the Cradock farmhouse which stood on what was then known as "Salem Path to Mistick Ford," near the present square.

In order to verify the correctness of some of these statements, and to form an idea of the situation then existing, let us take a position on the hill in the rear of the old high-school building and, looking towards the river, see in imagination the retaining wall on the north side of the river, and the earth filling back of it removed; also the retaining wall supporting the southerly side of High street, that extends from the dwelling house of Dr. Bemis to a point opposite the driveway of the public library, and the filling back of that also removed; see the new channel of the river filled up so as to turn the water into its original course, sweep away all buildings and other improvements, remembering that the tide once flowed into the square, that Cradock bridge was twice its present length, and that the south bank of the river was then substantially as at present; see also the narrow cart path creeping along the bank of the river, just above high-water mark, and then climbing the steep bank in front of the public library building, and we shall then understand the situation thereabouts when the ford was in use.

The general course of the river from Cradock bridge to the northerly end of the ford is nearly east and west, then it takes an abrupt turn in a southwesterly direction, bringing the landing places on the north and south side of the river about opposite each other, and making the course of the fording place lengthwise of that portion of the river.

The place thus designated as the site of the ancient ford at Mistick does not agree with those selected by the historians of Medford. It will therefore be necessary to show cause for locating it as above described.

Fortunately the early records of the town of Charlestown (see the Third Report of the Boston Record Commissioners) furnish all the evidence necessary to locate the ancient ford at Mistick, extracts from which are as follows: "A record of land laid out in Charlestown bounds on this side of the Menotomie's River (being called the Stinted Pasture) unto the Proprietors thereof, according to a vote of theirs passed when convened together, March 10th 1684–5.

"To John Foule, Fourteen Acres, *through which is laid a Highway to the Ford*, and a Highway by the upper side of the Bridge to the River, said land bounded westnortherly and northeasterly by Mistick River : eastsoutherly by the Highway and Farm : southwesterly by Ebenezer Austin : and westnortherly by a Rangeway."

The parcel of land above described was situated on both sides of what is now South street and west of Main street. It included all the land between South street and the river, on the north and south, and between Main street and the fording place on the east and west, except one-half an acre on the corner of Main and South streets, a portion of which is now occupied by the brick engine house of the Fire Department. The highway to the river was laid out two rods in width, and was used by the town of Charlestown as a landing place for materials used in the construction and repairs of the southerly half of Mistick bridge. This way was five rods in length and connected with the half-acre lot on the corner of Main and South streets, which lot was known by the name of "The Gravel Pit." The farm referred to was that of Governor Winthrop, afterwards that of Lieutenant-Governor Usher, and still later that of Col. Isaac Royall, portions of the westerly bounds of which are still in existence.

"To Christopher Goodwin. Seven Acres. bounded westnortherly by Mrs. Anna Shepherd : north by Mistick River *and a Highway to the Ford from the Country Road ;* eastsoutherly by the Rangeway : southwesterly by Peter Frothingham."

This parcel of land was located west of the land set off to John Foule, on both sides of South street. Its northwesterly boundary was substantially where the northwest line of Touro avenue now is. The rangeway on the east south bound was a little west of Walnut street, and separated the land of Goodwin from that of Foule. The fordway extended from Main street to a distance of twenty-four rods westerly from that portion of the land of John Foule situated on the north side of the fordway. The distance between the rangeway and land of Mrs. Anna Shepherd was forty-one rods.

"There is, by the records, a place for Gravel. About one-half an acre, of land, on Mistick River just above the Bridge, bounded as follows: — westerly by land formerly Jonathan Tufts' now Brigadier Royall's, 10½ rods: northerly on said Tufts' land next the marsh 7 rods: from whence a two pole way running down to the River, butting easterly on the Country road 5½ rods: and southerly upon *the way that leads to the Ford or landing-place*, 9 rods, which way is two rods wide to the landing-place.

"There is a piece of land, about one-half an acre, belonging to the town, for a landing or fishing place on Medford River, which is bounded as follows, viz: — on land formerly of Mr. Jonathan Tufts, now Brigadier Royalls, measuring from the road at the east end back to the River, northerly 8 rods: from said east end along the road to a stake, measuring 24 rods westerly, and from said stake northerly to the River is two rods, all straight lines."

The town of Charlestown voted at a meeting held May 8, 1723, to authorize a committee to sell and convey a piece of land situated at the corner of the country road and the way that leads to the ford, upon conditions that the grantees forever maintain and repair the said town's half of Mistick bridge and the "causey" adjoining and also build a dwelling house (within two years) of two stories, thirty-six feet long and eighteen feet wide, two rooms upon a floor. (Mr. Jonathan Tufts, who then owned the land now occupied by Messrs. Symmes, Crowley, and Page and Curtin, protested against the sale, inasmuch as it cut him off from the country road.)

A description of the land copied from the county records is as follows: "About one-half an acre, upland and Marsh near the Great Bridge, the gravel pit so called, bounded, westerly on land in possession of Jonathan Tufts 10½ rods; northerly on said Tufts' land next to the Marsh 7 rods, together with a two pole way leading down to the River above the upper side of the Bridge: easterly on the County road 10½ rods: southerly upon *the way that leads to the Ford or landing place* 9 rods, which way is laid out two rods wide."

The dwelling house above described will be recognized by old residents of the city as that of Mr. Richard and Miss Emily Tufts, which stood where the brick engine-house now stands, and which was destroyed in the great fire of 1850.

The foregoing evidence proves conclusively that the southerly end of the ford was located as before stated. There is, however, no such positive evidence as to the landing on the north side of the river. It is well known that a landing place once existed there. But conjecture becomes certainty when we consider that the northerly end of the ford must have been located as before stated, for the very good reason that it could not have been located elsewhere, taking into consideration the fact that no gravel beach existed on the north side of the river, either east or west, within one-half a mile of the location above described.

Mention is made of the ancient fording place in the records of the General Court as follows: "Oct. 27, 1648, The General Court voted in answer to the petition of Mr. Nicholas Davidson, concerning Mistick Bridge. . . . But it appears not in the least that the General Court did engage to the repairing thereof. . . . and that the passage for travellers shall be over the Foarde which is above the Bridge."

"John Winthrop and his Home on the Mystic" was the subject for the meeting of November 19. Mr. Charles D. Elliott, President of the Somerville Historical Society, gave a very interesting paper containing much information about the Ten Hills Farm, which included a large part of Medford south of the river. A hearty vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Elliott at the close of the meeting.

INCIDENTS AND REMINISCENCES OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF MEDFORD.

By Samuel G. Jepson.

[Read before the Medford Historical Society, Dec. 17, 1900.]

IN the earlier days of the town's history there was not sufficient care taken to preserve the records of events and the doings of the Fire Department. I have perused the records of the different fire companies, but could learn nothing of their services at the fires which occurred, except from the records of the Hook and Ladder Company, and of the Washington Engine Company No. 3.

From the early records of the Hook and Ladder Company, and from books in their possession, I learn that in the year 1785 an association was formed bearing the name of the "Amicable Fire Society," and having for its motto "Amicis Nobisque." By Constitution and By-Law the members bound themselves to assist each other in extinguishing fires that threatened the destruction of their property. For this purpose they agreed to furnish themselves with two leathern buckets for carrying water, two fire sails, or bags, for carrying small articles to a place of safety, and a screw or bed key for taking apart the bed which, in those days, was of the sacking or windlass pattern. On the alarm of fire being given, they were to answer the call, and render all the assistance in their power. The fire buckets were passed along the line formed from the nearest well. The water was sometimes thrown on to the fire, sometimes used to supply the engine nearest the fire. The buckets were suitably inscribed with the owner's name and the year that he became a member, and, with the bags and screw key, were to be kept in a suitable place in his home. Once each quarter they were inspected by a committee appointed for that purpose, and if not found in place a fine of twenty-five cents was levied for each article missing.

Meetings were held quarterly at some of the hotels in the town; and the annual meeting for election of officers and the annual dinner was often held at some hotel out of town, such as Spy Pond House, Fresh Pond Hotel, sometimes at Lynn, Hingham, or other places to suit the pleasure of the members.

The members of this society were not only banded together to protect the property of themselves and friends, but they were free to render assistance out of town. I learn from their records that at a quarterly meeting held Nov. 6, 1818, a committee of members, Messrs. W. Ward and Dudley Hall, were appointed to consult with the Fire Wards and Selectmen of the town, to inquire if it be expedient for the engine to go to Boston and Charlestown at their fires; also to inquire into what further preparations can be made for the security of the town. At the next meeting, Nov. 11, 1818, the committee reported as follows:

"Your committee beg leave to report that on Friday evening, the sixth instant, they met as by vote directed, and after due deliberation unanimously agreed to submit the following:

"Resolutions for the consideration of the Society:

"*Resolve* 1. — That by the Statute Laws of this Commonwealth the Fire Wards have sole power in case of fire, either in their own town or in the vicinity thereof, to order out the engine; and in case of fire in town, to direct and appoint their stations, and apparatus of the enginemen with their engine, and of all other persons, for the purpose of extinguishing the fire and preventing its increase.

"*Resolve* 2. — That in case of fire out of town it is never expedient that more than one engine nor more than half the Fire Wards should leave the town to attend it.

"*Resolve* 3. — That in case of fire in Boston or Charlestown it be recommended to the Fire Wards that they immediately order the enginemen to bring the engine and their buckets and their other furniture to the hotel, and that the Selectmen, the committee chosen by the society, and the Fire Wards, meet there forthwith, to determine on the proper means to be adopted.

"*Resolve* 4. — That in case of fire in the neighboring towns it is expedient that the Fire Wards repair thither with the engine and enginemen immediately, and without any delay whatever.

"*Resolve* 5. — That whenever it shall be necessary for the engine and enginemen to leave town to attend a fire, it be recommended to the Fire Wards to furnish wagons if possible for the purpose of transporting them.

"*Resolve* 6. — That the three ladders now owned by the town be kept in the following places, viz.: One upon the fence south of Mayo's Hotel; one upon the fence adjoining the meeting house; and one upon the fence west of the burying ground.

"*Resolve* 7. — That it be recommended to the town that three more ladders be added to the present stock, to be disposed of as the Fire Wards may direct.

"*Resolve* 8. — That it be recommended to the householders of the town that they burn their chimneys frequently in wet weather, and keep ladders to ascend the roof in case of fire.

"*Resolve* 9. — That it be recommended to the Fire Wards to provide themselves with the proper staff of office, to see that the engine-house be properly aired, and that the buckets and other implements belonging to the Engine Company be kept in good order for use.

"*Resolve* 10. — That at the annual meeting of this society in November, a committee of three shall be appointed therefrom to meet and confer with the Fire Wards and Selectmen, that the above resolutions be carried into effect.

" Signed DUDLEY HALL, } *Committee.*
" W. WARD. }

"Present at the meeting:
"Doctor Luther Stearns, Selectman and Fire Ward.
"Thatcher Magoun, Selectman.
"Nathl. Hall, Esqr., Fire Ward.
"Andrew Blanchard, Fire Ward.
"Jonathan Porter, Fire Ward.
"*Your Committee*."

It was also voted that Resolve 8 be posted.

In their records no mention is made of fires at which they did service, although reports were made of the loss of buckets, bags, and screw keys, for which fines were levied and paid. If a member was absent at the first call of the roll he was fined twelve and one-half cents; if absent from the meeting he was fined fifty cents. The fines thus collected enabled them to have occasionally a collation or chowder after the meeting.

This was the first organization of which we have any knowledge formed for the purpose of assisting each other to extinguish fires in those early days. They continued their existence till the year 1849, when the society was dissolved.

There are now hanging in the carriage room of the hook and ladder house twenty-two of these leathern buckets, inscribed with the name of the owner and the year of his membership, which the present company prize as relics of "auld lang syne." Mr. Francis A. Wait has hanging in the front hall of his house three buckets inscribed as follows:

One, John A. Fulton	1785.
Two, Nathan Wait	1810.

The following are those in the hook and ladder carriage room:

Two, J. Swan	1785.
Two, Ebenezer Hall	1785.
Two, Benjamin Fisk	1800.
One, Daniel Swan	1821.

Two, Robert Bacon	1822.
Two, Thomas R. Peck	1827.
Two, Abnah Bartlett	no date.
One, E. Hall	“ “
One, Daniel Lawrence	1841.
One, Timothy Cotting	no date.
One, Samuel Chase	“ “
Two, Andrew Blanchard, Columbian Eagle Fire Society.	
One, Nathan Sawyer	no date.
One, Gov. Brooks	No. 1.
One, Gen'l Jackson	No. 2.

We have now in the service of the city an organization bearing the name of Washington Hook and Ladder Company which has been in existence for seventy-two years without interruption. From time to time this has been composed of many of our best and most influential citizens, who were imbued with the same sympathetic spirit that characterized the members of the former organization. They were organized under an act of the General Court of Massachusetts in the year 1828, by a charter duly signed by the Hon. Levi Lincoln as Governor, and Edward D. Bangs as Secretary of State. So far as I have been able to learn, this is the only Fire Company now holding a charter designating them a Company of Hook and Ladder Men. At the time of their organization there were two companies of firemen in the city of Philadelphia, called The Northern Liberty and The Hibernian Engine Company, who were organized with a charter signed by King George of England in 1750 and 1752, but these have long since ceased to be active members of the department, although continuing their organization to this day. Therefore I think this company can justly claim the honorable distinction of being the oldest active fire company in the United States, of which fact the city of Medford may justly be proud. By their records I learn that at a meeting of the Selectmen of the town of Medford July 26, 1829, the following persons were appointed to form and constitute a Company of Hook and Ladder Men, agreeable to an act of the General Court for that purpose, passed June 11, 1829, viz. : John B. Fitch, N. H. Bishop, A. S. Kent, George W. Porter, Horatio A. Smith, John Stimson, Eph'm Tufts, Jos. P. Hall, B. Richardson, T. R. Peck, Ebenz'r Chamberlain, Dexter Harlow, Elisha Livermore, Azor Richardson, and Thomas Jameson. At the first meeting of the company, July 8, 1829, they organized by the choice of John B. Fitch as moderator and George W. Porter as clerk, and then voted to adopt the following Constitution as a form of government :

CONSTITUTION OF THE HOOK AND LADDER COMPANY OF MEDFORD, INSTITUTED JULY 8, 1829.

Article 1.

On the third Monday of October there shall be an annual meeting of the company, at which time there shall be a Captain and Clerk, chosen by ballot. The Captain to preside as Moderator, and have power to call special meetings when he shall think proper. The Clerk to preside at any meeting in the absence of the Captain.

Article 2.

The business of the Clerk shall be to keep a true account of all fines due, and all other necessary records.

Article 3.

The business of the company shall be determined by a majority of the members present.

Article 4.

There shall be four quarterly meetings, viz. : on the third Mondays of January, April, July, and October at the ladder house, unless otherwise ordered by the company, at 4 o'clock P.M., at which time the roll shall be called, and absent members shall pay, if absent at roll call, twenty-five cents, and if absent during the continuance of the meeting, fifty cents.

Article 5.

At special meetings every member shall be warned by the Clerk, and if any one is absent, he shall pay the same fine as at quarterly meetings, and a proportionate part of the expense of said meeting.

Article 6.

If any members shall leave the company at any quarterly meeting until adjourned, or at a fire until the ladders are housed, without permission of the Captain, he shall pay a fine of fifty cents.

Article 7.

If any member is absent at a fire, he shall pay a fine of one dollar, unless he shall make a reasonable excuse to the Clerk within ten days, which excuse and all others shall be submitted to the company.

Article 8.

One of the company shall be employed to keep the door of the ladder-house free from snow, he shall receive such compensation as shall be agreed on between him and the company, and if he neglects to do his duties, he shall forfeit for each and every offence fifty cents.

Article 9.

When any person is admitted a member of the company it shall be the duty of the Clerk to procure the approbation of the Selectmen, application to be made to the Selectmen at their first meeting after.

Article 10.

Every member shall settle his account with the Clerk at each quarterly meeting.

At a meeting of the Selectmen July 20, 1829, the preceding Rules and Articles as adopted by the Hook and Ladder Company for their regulation and government were laid before the board and approved, and allowed as the rules and regulations of said company.

Signed A. BARTLETT,
Clerk.

Medford, April 19th, at a meeting of the company this day at the ladder house the following By-Laws were enacted.

That every person entering the company shall pay to the Clerk two dollars to be appropriated to defray the expenses of the company.

Attest GEORGE W. PORTER,
Clerk.

The first fire on record occurred Thursday, March 13, 1834, at Thatcher Magoun's shipyard; the second, Dec. 30, 1834, on Andrew Blanchard's lumber wharf.

These same rules and regulations have been in existence, and were rigidly adhered to by the present company until the department was made a permanent one.

In 1839 the town of Medford petitioned the Legislature for an act of incorporation for their fire department. This suggested to the Legislature the importance of considering the whole subject; and on the 9th of April the present law was passed. The next day they authorized the town of Medford to organize a fire department according to their petition, and the act is as follows:

"An Act to establish a Fire Department in the Town of Medford.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

"The Selectmen of the Town of Medford are hereby authorized to establish a fire department in said town in the manner and according to the provisions prescribed in an act to regulate fire departments passed on the 9th day of April 1839, and the said fire department when so established and the several members thereof, and all the officers and companies appointed by them, and the said town of Medford and the inhabitants thereof shall be subject to all the duties and liabilities, and be entitled to all the privileges and exemptions specified in said act, so far as the same relates to them respectively."

This act was submitted to the town to be accepted and approved, and accordingly the present fire department was organized in due form.

There were three engine companies formed under this act, viz.: Governor Brooks No.1, General Jackson No 2, and J. Q. Adams No. 4.

The Governor Brooks No. 1 was located where the public pound now is on Back street. The Selectmen appointed a company consisting of twenty-nine members, who on the thirteenth day of November, 1835, met and organized by the choice of the following officers: George L. Stearns, clerk; James T. Floyd, foreman; David Kimball, assistant foreman ; and Luther Angier, treasurer. The company continued its organization till July 2, 1839, when there was an insufficient number to work the engine at a fire. They chose a committee to wait on the Selectmen, make a statement of the condition of the company, and request that it be disbanded. It was also voted, "that the foreman, Mr. John T. White, surrender the engine 'Governor Brooks' and whatever moneys there may be in the hands of the Treasurer to the Selectmen to be disposed of as they may judge expedient."

On July 3, the next day after disbandment, the Selectmen appointed twenty-nine men to take charge of the engine, and on July 22 they met and chose Mr. John T. White, foreman, Joseph James, assistant foreman, and Daniel H. Forbes, clerk and treasurer. They continued the organization till March 17, 1858, when by order of the engineers they were disbanded for disobeying the order of the engineers at a fire on the plains, Mr. Hugh Nugent's house on Cherry street.

Engine No. 2, "General Jackson," was first located in a building near the Meeting-House brook at the foot of Marm Symond's hill, and after a few years was relocated in the rear of the First Parish meeting-house. They by their records were organized in 1808, and held their first meeting at the house of Mr. J. Johnson, where it was voted that Zaccheus Wyman be master of the engine and James T. Floyd be clerk. The following persons were appointed by the Selectmen to constitute the engine company, viz.: Zaccheus Wyman, James T. Floyd, John Symmes 3d, John Dickson, William Harris, Jonathan Brooks, Patrick Roach, Joseph Bucknam, Joseph Wyman, Jr., Isaac Floyd, Isaac Brooks, Leonard Bucknam, Samuel Teel Jr., Daniel Wier.

In their records the engine is sometimes called the Western Engine Company. They held their meetings the first Monday in every month at the houses of the members or at the hotels in the town.

In January, 1820, the Selectmen appointed the following persons as members of the company, viz.: William Butters, Ebenezer Putnam, Cornelius Bigelow, Abial Butters, Henry Woodwarth, James T. Floyd Jr., Benjamin Floyd 2d, John M. Kuhn, Oliver Wyman, William E. Otis, Marshal Symmes, Sewall Pierce, Thomas Calf, Edward Hudley.

Thus it seems that the Selectmen, with the approval of the engineers, appointed new men every year or two which was in accordance with the act of the General Court.

This company voted to disband on the twenty-second day of December, 1859, and so notified the Board of Engineers.

Engine No. 4, "J. Q. Adams," was located at the Ship Yard nearly opposite Park street, and having no suction hose was used for the watering of ships in course of construction.

Engine No. 3, "Washington," was organized in 1855, and at a subsequent meeting the following officers were elected: Joseph W. Mitchell, foreman; Jonathan Oldham, first assistant foreman; Almon Black, second assistant foreman; Samuel N. Sylvester, clerk; and Hiram Simmons, steward. They continued their organization till the year 1868. This company was composed of persons who had seen service in the other companies of the department, many of whom were prominent in the higher offices of the town. They also contributed largely in filling the quotas of the town in the Civil War, many never returning to their homes again. Capt. Joseph W. Mitchell remained at the head of the company during the entire time of their organization, and was highly respected and esteemed. The members of the company were ever watchful and zealous for the welfare of those who had gone to the front in their country's service, and careful that those left behind did not suffer. Money, time, and service were not spared in endeavors to show an appreciation of the sacrifice made for their country's cause, and the same may be said of all the companies, for members enlisted from them all, and many after having faithfully served their country returned home to the peaceful pursuits of civil life.

In the year 1862, by vote of the town, the Selectmen caused to be constructed in different parts of the town cisterns or reservoirs to be used only in case of fire for the engines to draft from.

Thus was service rendered to the town by the volunteers of the department till the introduction of steam fire engines, which in a measure dispensed with the services of those who had bound themselves together for the love of rendering service to those in distress and danger from the fiery element.

HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

AN EARLY SCOURGE IN MEDFORD.

STAFFORD HAMMOND, '02.

[Prepared in connection with work in American History.]

FEW of the many ills which the early settlers of Medford fell heir to caused such devastation among them as the smallpox. The ravages which this disease committed among the settlers can hardly be conceived by the present generation. It was more dreaded than the raids of the savage Pequot or Tarrantine, and no disease excited so quick and sharp alarm among them.

The smallpox at intervals had raged among the Indians in this section of the country since the early part of the seventeenth century, and in 1633 it carried off as one of its victims the Indian chief, Sagamore John, who lived with his tribe near Mystic lake. His death was a great blow to the early settlers, for he had granted much land to them, and had protected them from hostile Indian attacks.

The first entry [1] in the Town Records as to the prevvalence of smallpox in Medford is dated 1721. The warrant for a town meeting called all freeholders to assemble for a consideration of the preventing of the spread of smallpox. The occasion for issuing this warrant seems to have been that some member of the family of Samuel Polley had the smallpox. In the meeting it was voted that the road be turned and absolutely closed from the house of Jacob Pierce to that of Samuel Polley, so long as it was needed, and a sufficient guard be kept at the Polley house. At this same meeting it was also voted that the town should furnish a house to receive any persons who were taken with the smallpox and to keep them there until they recovered. Thus the early Medford settlers had solved the best way of attacking the disease, that of absolute isolation.

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[1] Town Records, Volume II., pages 58, 66.

In 1752[1] another epidemic made its appearance. Although this was slight, yet it was attended with the usual horrors of this loathsome disease. On May 11, 1752, the freeholders voted that the Selectmen be empowered to provide some suitable house or houses for the reception of all persons who were taken with the smallpox, or those who were suspected.

It appeared again in 1760, in the town, and the only record that we have of it is in the Treasurer's report. The report states that on Feb. 19, 1760, £5, 1 shilling and 8 pence was raised to Mr. William Tufts and another townsman, for watching at the smallpox house. The treasurer also adds, "to myself and horse to Charlestown for the Doctor for Thomas Linch 2^{s}/8." Another part of the report also states that money was paid to certain persons who furnished Captain Willis and other persons with blankets and other furnishings during their illness. One of the victims of this epidemic was the schoolmaster, William Whitmore, who died March 10, 1760, and because of his death the schools were closed till the July following.

The smallpox, after having been for four years in abeyance, renewed its visitation in 1764.[2] The warrant, which was issued "in his Majesty's name," April 13, 1764, called all the freeholders together for a consideration of the raging epidemic. At the meeting it was voted that a gate should be erected across the main road, and a smoke house be built near the Medford great bridge (which is now Cradock bridge). This house was erected on the west side of Main street, and about forty rods from Colonel Royall's house. It was also voted that another should be erected at the West End, and suitable guards be kept at the town's expense. The Selectmen were to take full responsibility for the erection of the fences and houses, and were to provide a guard of such persons as they saw fit. The idea of erecting a gate across the main road was a good one, because it prevented travellers from Boston and vicinity, which was the base of smallpox epidemics in Massachusetts, from entering Medford without being unceremoniously stopped and fumigated at the smoke house. In the Treasurer's report one item states that Mr. Timothy Waite was paid £1 16 shillings 4½ pence, "for Work & some Nails for the Smoke House & some work at the School House." Another item states that 6 shillings were paid Doctor Rand "for a Night to Capt. Blodget when taken with ye Small Pox." Also another item states that £14, 8 shillings were paid Captain Eben Morrow "for Tending the Smoke House from ye 16th of April to the Ninth day of June 1764 both days included @ 6s per day."

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[1] Town Records, Volume III., page 80.
[2] Town Records, Volume III., page 131.

Another town meeting was held May 24, 1778,[1] to see what the town would do concerning an inoculating hospital. Previous to this a hospital of this kind had been situated at Point Shirley for the use of all people in Boston and vicinity. Inoculation had been introduced in Boston in June, 1721, by the Rev. Cotton Mather, who, hearing of the great success it had had in Europe and the Orient, interested himself in it, and thus introduced it in Boston. It met with violent opposition hardly second in bitterness to that of the witchcraft period; but he faced the fury of the mob, and did noble service in its defence in spite of threats of personal violence. Inoculation was beginning to reap success about 1778, so Medford people desired to have a hospital of their own. When the British troops were besieged in Boston, smallpox broke out among them, and after they evacuated the town it raged among the inhabitants, and thus spread to Medford. The townsmen decided to attack this epidemic by inoculation. It was voted that the town should provide a house for the reception of any person who was taken with smallpox in the "Natural Way." It was also voted that if the Selectmen should find any person who had been attending a sick person, they should give that person liberty to go to the smallpox house and be inoculated under the proper restrictions.

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[1] Town Records, Volume III., page 239.

The epidemic again visited Medford in 1788.[1] The freeholders were called together for a consideration of what the town should do concerning the removal of the William Cutter family, who had the smallpox, and what the town should do concerning the establishment of an inoculating hospital for two months. It was "voated" to remove all persons who were subject to the smallpox to a suitable house, subject to the will of the Selectmen. It was voted that if any person "chanced to have the smallpox" he might obtain permission to be inoculated in such a house as might be obtained for that purpose. This order also provided that if a person desired to be inoculated he must pay the expenses of this house for two months. Under these severe regulations it was not likely that many persons were inoculated.

A petition from Governor Brooks and others relative to further inoculation was discussed at a town meeting in 1789 It was decided that any person could be inoculated if he desired to pay the expenses. It was also voted that the Selectmen could put a stop to inoculation if they thought it expedient.

Another epidemic made its appearance in 1792.[2] At a meeting of the townsmen in September of that year it was voted to take all possible measures to prevent the spread of the existing epidemic, and to provide houses for those who were taken with the disease. The town meeting voted to provide a house, and decided to prosecute to the fullest extent any person who inoculated or was inoculated. This method of treatment failed in Medford as elsewhere, and no further measures of this sort were taken until the introduction of vaccination.

It will be seen that Medford has had her full share of the burden of the smallpox which caused such devastation in early Massachusetts.

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[1] Town Records, Volume IV., page 65.

[2] Town Records, Volume III., page 99.

SOME UNPUBLISHED SCHOOL REPORTS.

[The annual reports of the schools for the years 1835-6, 1837-8, 1838-9, which were read in town meeting, but never printed, have been published in the "Register" of October, 1899. The report for 1839-40 is not on file, but a special one made November, 1840, is among the papers in the office of the city clerk as well as the regular report for the year 1841-42, both of which are here given. — ED.]

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE, NOV. 9, 1840.

Accepted by the Town.

Your Committee in the discharge of their duty beg leave to offer this extra Report : —

To propose to the Town some plan for the accommodation of the numerous scholars attending our public schools. —

With the exception of Miss Abbott's school at the west end of the town there is scarcely a seat in any of the Public Schools unoccupied ; while a large number of scholars are expected to come in as usual after Thanksgiving. Your Committee have thought of two modes of overcoming this difficulty — 1st. to build a spacious school-house in the center of the Town, and enlarge the one south of the river. — or — 2nd. to place the minimum age at which children may be admitted to the public schools at five years instead of four. — The former course would be attended with a heavy expense, which the town at present is ill-prepared to meet: besides, were the Town ready to incur the expense, the school-houses could not be prepared in season to accommodate the schools the coming winter : moreover, the South school-house is so incommoded by the smoke and oil of a neighboring factory that it is doubtful in the opinion of your committee whether it ever *ought* to be enlarged, or even retained as a school-house unless the nuisance can be removed. — Your Com. therefore, recommend the latter course. — It is a well-attested fact that many children are injured in body and mind by the confinement of a school-room at the tender age of four years; and it is very questionable whether children admitted to the public schools at four years, will be farther advanced at eight, than those admitted at five. There are some two hundred scholars in the schools between four and eight years of age. Admit none under five, and you reduce that number about one quarter part, and will be able to accommodate the remainder for several years to come. —

With these views, your Committee recommend as a matter of expediency to admit no scholars to the public schools, under five years of age. —

GALEN JAMES,
SAMUEL GREGG,
JAMES O. CURTIS, } *School Com.*
ALEXANDER GREGG,
MARTIN BURRIDGE,

MEDFORD, Nov. 7, 1840.

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

Accepted March 7, 1842.

The School Committee report: That they have given earnest attention to their arduous trust. The experience of every month gives them a deeper sense of the importance of frequently visiting and carefully watching over the interests of the public schools. Accordingly they have not been sparing of time or labour. They have held regular meetings monthly, and frequently met at other times, when the welfare of the schools called for special attention. In addition to the usual public examinations, some part of the Committee have visited every school at least once a month, generally much oftener. And from all this actual observation they are fully satisfied that there has been a progressive improvement in the condition of the Schools collectively through the past year. A spirit of order & decency prevails. The progress of the scholars indicates great dilligence in them and in their Instructors. The discipline is excellent without severity; and the method of teaching is most thorough and accurate. In these respects it is believed that our schools will bear a comparison with any similar institutions in the State.

It is a well known fact that children are apt to fall into idle habits and soon come to take little interest in Schools, which are neglected by their parents. The Committee cannot too strongly urge upon their fellow citizens the importance of visiting the public schools often, that they may encourage and stimulate both Teachers and Pupils by their attention, and see for themselves in what manner & with what results their money is expended. They should remember that their outlay for the purposes of education is invested in the character and best interest of the rising generation; and, that, if well employed, it will yield a return richer than any other expenditure. If parents would make the most of their advantages, let them cherish in their children a profound respect for the character and authority of their Instructors; and be careful that they are constant & punctual in their attendance at School. Much harm is often heedlessly done by complaining sometimes in the presence of pupils — without a sufficient knowledge of facts.

The Committee are of opinion that the appropriation of the last year has been profitably expended. They recommend the continuance of the present organization of the Public Schools, the usefulness of which becomes every year more apparent. They should be cherished as the pride and hope of the Town. Let every effort be made to sustain them at the highest point of excellence, that they may afford to all the means of a thorough practical education; that, in these seminaries, the children of the poor and the rich may be trained together, with feelings and principles in harmony with the genius of our institutions, which recognize no distinctions but such as arise from character.

In this connexion the Committee beg leave to suggest to parents, and other friends of improvment, that for a trifling expense they can have access to a well chosen library, now large and every year growing in value and importance. Good books are safe companions; and a relish for them is the source at once of the highest & the cheapest enjoyment. And this is not all. It is impossible to calculate the amount of knowledge which children may derive from these works of the living and the dead, before they arrive at maturity. Nothing can do so much as a habit of reading to cherish purity of character, to promote intelligence and carry out plans of public improvement indefinitely beyond the point where it must be left by the Public Schools.

The number of Scholars has increased so considerably that it has been necessary to provide additional accommodations in some of the schoolrooms; and these are still too small for convenience & comfort. The number of pupils is at present,

In the High School 75
East Grammar School
East Primary School
Centre Grammar School
South Primary School
West Primary School.

During the last year the Committee have been obliged to make several alterations in School houses in order to accommodate the constantly increasing numbers of Scholars. And they would suggest that some of them are too small for convenience and comfort.

To meet the expenses of the Schools for the present year the Committee recommend the appropriation of $3,200.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Alexander Gregg,
C. Stetson,
H. Ballou, 2d,
Jos. W. Mitchell,
Benj. Moore,
John W. Bacon,
A. R. Baker.
School Committee.

Medford, March 7, 1842.

MAY 18 1902

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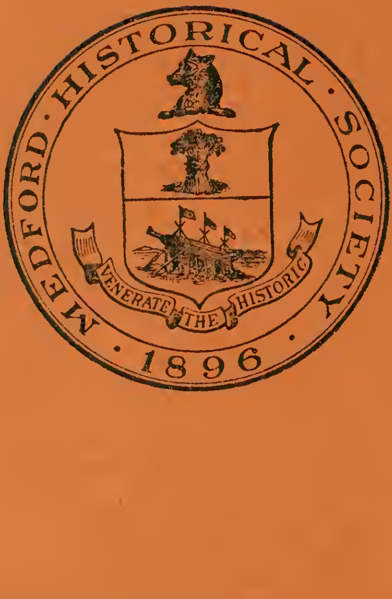
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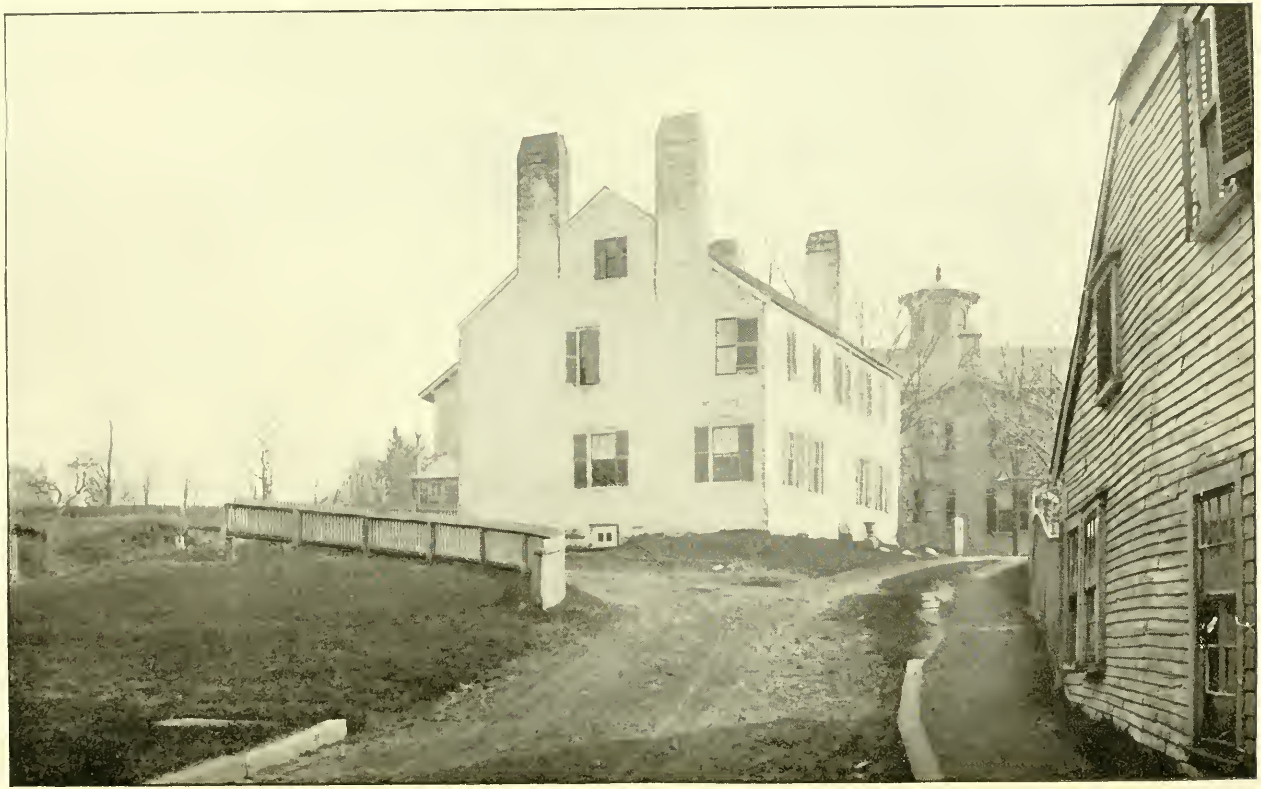

MAJOR JONATHAN WADE'S HOUSE, PASTURE HILL LANE, MEDFORD.

The Medford Historical Register.

Vol. IV. APRIL, 1901. No. 2.

FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY IN MEDFORD.

By Parker R. Litchfield.

[Read before the Medford Historical Society, Feb. 18, 1901.]

THE following petition appears to be one of the first movements to organize the "First Universalist Society in Medford":

"PETITION.

"*To Luther S. Cushing, Esquire, one of the Justices of the Peace, within and for the County of Middlesex:*

"The subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Medford, in said county, being members of a religious society in said town, being duly qualified to vote in town affairs, and being desirous of incorporating ourselves, according to an act of the Legislature, passed February the 10th, A.D. 1824, hereby request you to issue your warrant, directed to some suitable person, whose name is hereunto subscribed, for calling the first meeting of the said religious society, requiring said person to notify and warn the members of the said religious society, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at some time and place, as shall be appointed in such warrant, to choose all such officers, and transact all such business as parishes are by law authorized to choose, and transact in the months of March and April annually.

"Given under our hands this tenth day of March, A.D. 1831.

"Signed, William S. Barker. Willard Butters.
John Wheeler. Miles Sampson.
Nathan W. Waite. John H. Haskell.

Thomas P. Hunt.
Waldo Belknap.
Timothy Cotting.
George Sawyer.
John Johnson.
James Hyde, Jr.
Joshua Bailey.
Benjamin Walker.
James Ford.
Moses Merrill.
John Sawtell.
Amherst Josslyn.
William Peak.
Leonard Bucknam.
John Ewell.
Charles Ewell.
Henry T. Ewell.
Joseph Richardson.
James Curtis."

I have deemed it of sufficient consideration to give this petition in full, together with the names of the petitioners, to show that the society was organized in due form of law, and to make a record of the names of the persons who were the originators and prime movers in the formation of this organization.

Justice Cushing was evidently prompt in business, for on the seventh day after receiving this petition he issued his warrant to Moses Merrill, one of the petitioners, as follows:

"Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

"Middlesex, ss.

" *To Moses Merrill of Medford, in said County, Greeting:*

"Whereas, certain persons, namely [here follow the names of the twenty-five persons already named], inhabitants of said town of Medford, duly qualified to vote in town affairs, and members of a religious society in said town, have requested me to issue a warrant for calling the first meeting of the said religious society, directed to some suitable person, who is a member thereof, requiring him to notify and warn the members of the said religious society, qualified to vote in town affairs, to meet at some time and place, as shall be appointed in such warrant, to choose all such officers, and transact all such business, as parishes are by law authorized to choose and transact, in the months of March and April annually.

"Now, therefore, you are hereby directed and required to notify and warn the persons above mentioned, and all others members of the said religious society, duly qualified as aforesaid, by reading this warrant in their presence, and hearing, or leaving a true copy thereof at their last and usual place of abode, seven days at least before the time of meeting, to assemble at Kendall's Hotel, in said Medford, on Tuesday, the twenty-second day of March, instant, at seven of the clock in the afternoon, then and there to act upon the following matters, namely :

"First. To agree and determine upon a name by which the said religious society shall be organized and known."

Then follow three other articles of the warrant relating to the choice of the usual officers of the parish.

The warrant was received and served in due form, and in pursuance thereof the members met in Kendall's Hotel, March 22, 1831, and were called to order by Justice Cushing, and the members proceeded to act on the first article, when it was "voted that this society shall be organized and known as the First Universalist Society in Medford."

Ballot was then taken for clerk, and William S. Barker was elected and duly qualified by Justice Cushing.

A prudential committee was elected, consisting of Timothy Cotting, Leonard Bucknam, and George Sawyer.

Miles Sampson, James Ford, and John Wheeler were elected assessors, Timothy Cotting elected treasurer, and William S. Barker elected collector.

We now have the society fully organized and ready to enter upon its important work, that its influence, with the other religious organizations of this town, should make the community of old historic Medford religious, peaceful, and law abiding, and as such it has ever proved.

In 1832 a church was built on Forest street. A few possibly of our old inhabitants may recall the old church building with its flight of steps on the outside leading to the auditorium in the second story. (No record of the dedication can be found.)

In 1850 the church was remodelled and enlarged. The long steps in front were removed, and an entrance made in the first story; fifteen feet eastward was added to its length, and other improvements made for the convenience of the society, which had increased in numbers and usefulness.

In 1886 other alterations and improvements were made. The church building was raised and the vestry brought up with the grade of the land, making it light and cheerful; a pastor's room was arranged with a convenient entrance to the pulpit platform; the organ was moved from the gallery to the east end of the church; new pews and windows replaced the old ones, making the appearance of the auditorium much more pleasant and attractive as well as convenient for its work as a church.

PASTORS.

In April, 1831, the Rev. Winslow Wright was installed as the first pastor, and after four years of faithful labor he resigned in April, 1835. Soon after his resignation the Rev. Joseph Banfield was made his successor, and remained as pastor for three years.

The Rev. Dr. Hosea Ballou was made pastor of the society in 1838. There may be members of this society who remember the kind, pleasant manners of this truly Christian man, who always had a pleasant greeting and a kind word for every one.

Dr. Ballou remained as pastor until August, 1853, when he was called to the presidency of Tufts College.

In February, 1854, the Rev. G. V. Maxham accepted an invitation to become the pastor of the parish, and in April was ordained. He continued with the society until May, 1858.

The pulpit was supplied from Sunday to Sunday for one year, when the Rev. C. B. Lombard entered upon the duties of pastor, beginning May 1, 1859. At a parish meeting held Dec. 4, 1860, his letter of resignation was accepted, to take effect Feb. 1, 1861.

Nov. 11, 1861, the Rev. Benjamin H. Davis was engaged to supply the pulpit until October, 1862. At this time he was engaged as pastor, and labored here with success until March, 1867. His earnest and logical treatment of his subjects in the pulpit was fully appreciated by his hearers, and without doubt produced good and lasting effects. He always spoke without manuscript.

For two years our pulpit was supplied by the Rev. T. J. Greenwood and Rev. Eben Francis.

In March, 1869, Rev. R. P. Ambler was engaged, and remained until December, 1873, a faithful, conscientious pastor.

May, 1874, Rev. J. T. Farnsworth became our pastor and resigned in June, 1875. The Rev. T. J. Sawyer, with other clergymen, supplied the pulpit until May, 1876.

The Rev. Mr. Haskell was the next pastor engaged, and remained here nearly two years. At the conclusion of his services the Rev. D. L. R. Libby was installed as pastor. and resigned after two years' labor.

The semi-centennial anniversary of our church and parish was celebrated Oct. 6, 1881, an occasion that will long be remembered with pleasure by all. Services were held afternoon and evening. In the afternoon the historical address of the society was given by the pastor, Rev. Daniel L. R. Libby; history of the Sunday-school by the superintendent, Parker R. Litchfield; these, with reading of the Scripture, prayer, and music, with an original hymn by Mrs. Libby, made the service very interesting. At the close of the afternoon meeting supper was served in the vestry. Toasts were responded to by the Rev. W. A. Start, Rev. J. M. Usher, Rev. Mr. Potter, Rev. R. Perry Bush, Rev. William H. Rider, Rev. Dr. Emerson, Rev. C. W. Biddle, Rev. Charles Skinner, and Rev. Henry C. De Long, of the Unitarian Church, Rev. G. C. Osgood, of the Methodist Church, and Rev. J. P. Abbott, of the Baptist Church. Addresses and music, and an original hymn by Dr. J. G. Adams, filled the programme for the evening.

Letters were read from some of the ex-pastors unable to be present. Rev. G. V. Maxham, Rev. Richard Eddy, and Rev. Eben Francis were present, and made appropriate remarks.

In the fall of 1882 the Rev. R. P. Ambler was again called to our church, and remained until 1886, when he removed to Florida, where he still lives.

At this time the Rev. J. B. Reardon, attending the Divinity School at Tufts College, was engaged to supply the pulpit, and during this engagement the remodelling of the church was effected as already alluded to.

The alterations having been completed, the church was re-dedicated Feb. 1, 1887, when appropriate services were held afternoon and evening. In the afternoon Rev. Charles W. Biddle, D.D., of North Cambridge, delivered an able address — subject, "The Power of Expression in Christian Faith and Fidelity." He was followed by Rev. A. A. Miner, D.D., of Boston, and Prof. Charles H. Leonard, of Tufts College, who each delivered able addresses, followed by a general conference.

At 6 o'clock, by invitation of the ladies of the Society, about two hundred and fifty persons partook of a bountiful collation.

In the evening the dedicatory services were held as follows: Invocation by Rev. Henry C. De Long, of Medford; Scripture reading by Rev. F. A. Gray, of Arlington; sermon by Rev. Richard Eddy, of Melrose;

dedicatory prayer by President E. H. Capen, of Tufts College; address to the parish by Rev. S. W. Sample, of Chelsea; benediction by the pastor, Rev. J. B. Reardon. Additional interest was added to the ceremonies by excellent music from the choir and congregation both afternoon and evening. It proved a deeply interesting occasion, and the remodelled church was again opened for the worship of God, and to help in the continued building of a Christian community. Mr. Reardon remained here until April, 1887.

Prof. Charles H. Leonard had temporary charge of the pulpit until January, 1889, when it was voted to invite Rev. Warren S. Woodbridge to become our pastor, and he commenced his services in April. He proved a faithful pastor, and was instrumental in establishing the Young People's Christian Union, which has greatly interested our young people. Brother Woodbridge continued with us until December, 1893, when he resigned, and became Professor of Applied Christianity in the Divinity School, Tufts College.

Soon after the resignation of Rev. W. S. Woodbridge, an engagement was made with the Rev. W. H. Dearborn, who for many years was pastor of the Universalist society in Hartford, Conn. We were much favored with the ability of this pastor, who remained with us until October, 1898.

At a parish meeting held in January, 1899, it was voted unanimously to extend a call to the Rev. Clarence L. Eaton, who graduated the previous year from Tufts Divinity School. He immediately commenced his services as pastor, and remains so at this date. On the 16th day of March he was ordained and installed with appropriate ceremonies by the following clergymen:

Invocation, by Charles H. Leonard, D.D.; responsive reading, by Rev. Edson Reifsnider and the people; reading of the Scriptures, by Rev. R. Perry Bush; sermon, by Rev. Frederick W. Hamilton; prayer and act of ordination, by Rev. Benjamin F. Eaton; the fellowship of the church, by A. J. Patterson, D.D. ; the welcome of the society, by Rosewell B. Lawrence, chairman of the parish committee ; the welcome of the Medford churches, by Rev. Henry C. De Long ; the charge to the minister, by Charles H. Leonard, D.D. ; the charge to the people, by Prof. Warren S. Woodbridge.

The act of ordination was deeply interesting, made so from the fact that a father was ordaining his son to the work of the Christian ministry.

His address was earnest and impressive, making clear the importance of the position this young servant of the Lord was about to assume, and no doubt was fully appreciated by the son.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY, MEDFORD.

There appears on the first page of the Church Record Book this entry :

"The church connected with the First Universalist Society in Medford was formed on Sunday, Jan. 19, 1834, and organized by choosing Messrs. Timothy Cotting and James O. Curtis deacons."

It was publicly recognized Wednesday evening, January 29. The Lord's supper was first administered by Winslow W. Wright, pastor, on the last Sunday in February following. The following is the uniting compact :

"COMPACT.

"We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do unite ourselves together as members of the Christian church connected with the First Universalist Society in Medford.

"By so doing we profess :

"1st. To believe that 'there is one God and one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time.'

"2d. To esteem it a duty and a privilege to obey the command of Jesus Christ by celebrating the Lord's supper in remembrance of him.

"3d. That we may keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, the unanimous consent of the members shall be obtained before any person shall be admitted to this church."

Each one of these articles seems worthy of comment.

With relation to the first: One who is familiar with the language of Universalism to-day will have the thought brought forcibly to mind that the Universalist church in common with all other churches has made a long advance in the better understanding of its own faith since this compact was drawn up, nearly seventy years ago.

The second article is remarkable for what it leaves out rather than for what it puts in. There is no obligation of conduct or character mentioned save this sacred one of observing the Lord's supper.

The third article of the compact is a rule of government rather than a basis of fellowship, but it served its purpose for nearly ten years, for not until Oct. 24, 1843, was this simple compact supplemented by a code of by-laws.

For the first eight years the records relate only to the admission of new members; but from 1842 until the present time there has been an increasing tendency to give full details as to what occurred at each meeting.

In 1850 appears this record showing that a happy relation existed between this society and the First Parish:

"Our meeting-house and vestry being under repair, and our church and congregation holding public service on Sundays with the First Parish (Rev. Mr. Pierpont) in this town, there were no regular meetings of the church in May and June."

May 22, 1851, it was voted to receive Bro. Sumner

Ellis. This man subsequently won fame as a minister and writer in the Universalist church.

May 4, 1862, this doleful record appears:

". . . A cloud seems to have settled down upon the church — the awful *cloud of war*, which has enveloped the whole nation in its blighting, withering grasp; and inasmuch as this church has been accessory or conniving to it (with the majority of other churches throughout the land), so is the curse following us in the loss of the pure, peaceful, quickening spirit of the Prince of Peace.

"After we shall have taken for the curing of our sick spirits the bitter medicine of war and its desolating consequences, may God grant unto us a refreshing return of the *real* spirit of charity and forgiveness, which will enable us to dwell in the realm of Peace forever with Christ our great Head, when our swords will be beaten into ploughshares and our spears into pruning hooks, and *all* souls shall know and praise the Lord.

"Oh, when shall Universalists learn to *live out* the glorious doctrine of *forgiveness*, which has been vouchsafed to them, instead of endeavoring to practise continually the old and harsher doctrines of *justice* and *punishment*. May our eyes be opened to a consciousness of our glaring inconsistency, and as a consequence our souls be humbled to that condition requisite to the reception of the spirit of Christ!"

First observance of ordinances, Lord's supper, Feb. 23, 1834.

Baptism (by sprinkling), Catherine Coolidge Brooks, June 26, 1842; (by immersion) Mrs. Catherine M. Hall, June 30, 1844. (This was probably the only case of baptism by immersion in our church and took place at the site of the Mystic ford.)

Children's Sunday and baptism. The first record and probably the first observance was July 2, 1868, when twenty-five children were baptized. This service was instituted in 1858 by Rev. C. H. Leonard, at that time pastor in Chelsea, now dean of Tufts Divinity School.

One of the most delightful occasions in the history of the First Universalist Church was that of Friday evening, Nov. 3, 1899, when the members of the church assembled for their reunion.

The vestry had been beautifully decorated with palms and potted chrysanthemums, loaned by Mr. John M. Leahy. Several members over eighty years of age were present, as well as a number of former members now living in other cities and States. The reception hour afforded pleasant opportunity for renewing old acquaintances.

At a quarter-past seven the company, numbering sixty-five, were assembled about the tables, and joined in singing "Blest be the Tie that Binds." The divine blessing was invoked by Rev. E. C. Bolles, of Melrose. The company then sat down at the well-filled tables, and an hour only too quickly passed in feasting and sociability.

The pastor, Rev. C. L. Eaton, welcomed the guests of the evening on behalf of the church, and declared that the purpose of the evening was to strengthen and deepen the bonds of Christian friendship. The roll was then called and the hymn, "I Love the Church," was sung.

The pastor then presented Mr. P. R. Litchfield, senior deacon of the church, as toast-master. The following toasts were given: "Our Common Work," responded to by Rev. E. C. Bolles, D.D.; "A Message from the Watch Tower," Rev. C. H. Leonard, D.D.; "Our Common Bond," Mrs. E. L. Houghton; "The Church and the Parish," Mr. R. B. Lawrence; "The Church and the Individual," Rev. E. L. Houghton; "Our Problem," Prof. W. S. Woodbridge; "Our Young People," Miss Anna B. Archibald; "Our Church," Deacon E. F. Roberts; "The Future," Mr. T. Howard Barnes. Letters from former members and pastors added much to the interest of the occasion.

The exercises closed at a late hour with the singing "God be with You till we Meet again," and the benediction. Not only was the gathering delightful because of its sociability, but also most helpful because of its inspiring religious spirit.

UNIVERSALIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

This school commenced soon after the formation of the parish in 1831, seemingly without special form, but springing up from the weekly gathering of the worshippers of the church; these interested persons looking about to see what good they could do soon formed themselves into a Sunday-school. It was evidently through the missionary spirit of these good people, who could not confine themselves to the work of a church alone, that our school became established.

For a few years the sessions were held some eight months of the year, as some of the teachers and scholars came from Somerville, Arlington, and Winchester, and to travel in the winter time was not quite as convenient as it is now.

The catechism of the day was used in the school.

The vestry not being finished, the sessions were held in the church auditorium.

The school after being fully established numbered about fifty, but in a few years it began to increase.

We are unable to find any records dating back of 1838, but have gathered a few facts from time to time as above.

In May, 1838, the teachers of the Sunday-school held a meeting for the purpose of forming a "Sabbath School Teachers' Association, whose object shall be their own mutual improvement, and the good of the school committed to their care."

At this time a committee was chosen, consisting of George Gay, James O. Curtis, and Mrs. Hepsibah Cotting, to "draft a constitution and report at a subsequent meeting."

In July this committee made report, and a constitution was adopted to govern the association.

The first article reads as follows: "The society shall be called the Universalist Sabbath School Teachers' Association." Then follow articles two to ten inclusive, naming the officers to be elected annually, the duties of said officers, and other matters pertaining to the interest and government of the school.

For a number of years the association held its meetings at the residences of the members every two weeks, and according to the records the time was fully occupied, not only in the transaction of business, but in their own mutual improvement, by carefully considering portions of the Scripture, previously decided upon, under the direction and assistance of the pastor.

It is evident that Mr. James O. Curtis was the first superintendent, but there is no record to show how long he held the position. From the formation of the Teachers' Association we have records in full upon that matter.

LIST OF NAMES OF THE MEMBERS, MAY, 1838.

Elisha Stetson, Supt.
Mrs. Hebsibah Cotting, Asst. Supt.
James O. Curtis, Librarian.
George Gay, Secretary.

Teachers.

Rev. Hosea Ballou.
Alanson Hadley.
Miss D. Mansfield.
Miss M. Keen.
Mrs. James O. Curtis.
Elbridge Teel.
Benjamin Moor.
Miss M. Wait.
Miss E. Graves.
Mrs. James Tufts.
Charles S. Jacobs.
Miss R. Turner.
Miss Betsey Keen.
Miss N. Tufts.
Mrs. H. Mitchell.

In after years these names may be of considerable interest to those looking up church history.

Mr. Stetson served as superintendent for one year. In June, 1839, Mr. James O. Curtis was again chosen superintendent, and was elected annually from that time until April, 1857, thus serving eighteen consecutive years. Mrs. Cotting was elected for three consecutive years. Mrs. Lusanna Wellington was elected assistant superintendent in March, 1842, and annually elected to that position for nineteen years. Rev. James M. Usher was elected superintendent, April, 1857, and served until August, 1859, when Elisha Stetson was chosen for the remaining part of the year. In April, 1860, Mr. Parker R. Litchfield was elected superintendent, and served in that office for thirty-five consecutive years. At the annual meeting in April, 1895, Mr. T. Howard Barnes was elected superintendent, and has been elected each year since that time.

For several years previous to 1872 no assistant was elected. In 1873 Mr. M. Warren was elected and served two years. Mr. Moses Mellen was then elected for five consecutive years. Rosewell B. Lawrence was chosen, April, 1879, and has served in that position to the present date, making a continuous service of twenty-one years.

The association was active, continually arranging work to be done for the welfare of the young, occasionally canvassing the town to find children who were not attending any Sunday-school, and is an active association to this time.

The school itself has always been self-supporting, and has contributed money to charitable and other purposes, gave quite a sum towards the cost of altering the church building, and has in many ways made itself useful in missionary and other religious work.

The names of many active workers, not already here recorded, could be mentioned, who, through sunshine and cloud, have faithfully labored in this school for years, and the good thus planted has undoubtedly brought forth good fruit.

STRANGERS IN MEDFORD.

COMPILED BY MISS HELEN T. WILD.

IN the early days of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, stringent laws were made to protect the towns against undesirable inhabitants.

Any one who rented a house or entertained a stranger in his house was required to notify the selectmen of his tenant's name, last residence, and financial condition.

If the stranger remained in a town three months without being "warned out," he became an inhabitant.

Unless the new-comer was the holder of taxable property he was usually warned out of town.

The law was strictly enforced in regard to children, apprentices, journeymen, and spinsters.

It was no disgrace to be warned out, unless there was danger of one becoming a town charge.

In such cases, if the person did not leave town within fourteen days after the date of warning, the constable was instructed to escort him to the town line, where he was met by the constable of the next town.

He was in this way passed from town to town until he reached his last place of residence.

When it became a State, Massachusetts was more strict; high and low, rich and poor, who were new residents, were warned out of town at the session of the court following their change of residence.

If all the men in the following list had been obliged to leave town as a result of being warned out, Medford would have lost some of her most useful citizens:

Names.	From. Date.	Warned out.	Remarks.
Adams, Benjamin	Plainfield, Oct., 1756	May 3, 1757	
Elizabeth (wife)			
Simeon } Children			
Ebenezer } Children			
Abraham } Children			
Solomon } Children			
Levi } Children			
Martha } Children			
Adams, Betsey		Jan. 30, 1791	
Adams, John	Newtown, June 12, 1773		Tenants of Heirs of Wm. Whitmore
Hannah (wife)			
Hannah } Children			
John } Children			
Adams, Joseph	“Rev. Mr. Cooks Parish”[1] April 3, 1769		Farmer employed by Col. Royall Single man
Adams, Nathan		Jan. 30, 1791	
Allen, George	Cambridge, April, 1757	Feb. 8, 1758	Tenant of Francis Whitmore
Hannah (wife)			
Allen, Samuel	Boston, June 18, 1755		Age 12. In family of Dan'l Cutter
Alexander, Sarah	Woburn, Mar. 9, 1757		In family of Thos. Brooks, Jr.
Anderson, William		Jan. 30, 1791	
Bailey, John	Rowley, July 7, 1759		In family of Sam'l Page
Barrell, Joseph, Jr.		Aug. 31, 1797	
Barto, Elizabeth	Lynn, June 28, 1755		Maid-servant

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[1] In present town of Arlington.

Barton, William		Aug. 31, 1797	
Barthrick, Timothy	Cambridge, Apr. 4, 1753	Feb. 2, 1754	In family of Sam'l Brooks, Jr.
	" Jan. 1764	Dec. 3, 1764	
Baxter, Content	Lexington, Apr., 1767	May 16, 1767	"Girl."
Beemis, Charity	Waltham, Feb. 16, 1773		Maid-servant in family of Ebenezer Hall, Jr.
Benjamin, Abigail	Concord, May, 1766	Mar. 2, 1767	
Berry, Samuel	Lexington, April, 1767	May 16, 1767	
Mary (wife)			
Samuel, Jr. Thomas Mary, Jr. Hannah Children			
Bickford, Thomas	Newbury, August, 1762	Jan. 1, 1763	
Billings, Capt. Roger wife and children	Preston, N. London Co., Ct., April 12, 1760	Oct. 8, 1770	Tenant of Col. Royall.
Blacklock, Mary	Stoneham, Feb., 1766	Sept. 1, 1766	
Blacklock, Mercy	" July 5, 1764		In family of Sam'l Page.
Blanchard, Caleb		Jan. 30, 1791	Brick maker.
Blanchard, Ebenezer	Malden, Apr. 5, 1762	Jan. 1, 1763	In family of his brother Hezekiah Blanchard.
Blanchard. Samuel		Jan. 30, 1791	
Blodget, Elizabeth	Boston, Aug. 21, 1761	May 14, 1762	Maid-servant. Age 17. In service to Aaron Hall.
Bodge, Henry		Jan. 30, 1791	Cooper.
Bond, Joseph	Watertown, May 12, 1773		In house of Richard Creese.
Bond, Anna (wife)			
Joseph (child)			

Names.	From. Date.	Warned out.	Remarks.
Boyd, John	Charlestown, Mar. 9, 1765	Feb. 24, 1766	Age 4. In family of William Faulkner
Brackett, Margaret	Boston, Sept., 1759	Nov. 21, 1759 Jan. 9, 1760	Endorsed "Not to be found."
Bradbury, William		Jan. 30, 1791 Aug. 31, 1797	
Bradford, Mary	Boston, May, 1755	Aug. 5, 1755	
Elizabeth Sarah Catherine Joseph } Children			
Brazier, Thomas, Jr.	Charlestown, Nov. 9, 1757	Feb. 8, 1758	In house of Dorothy Fowle.
Esther (wife)			
John (child)			
Bredin, Jacob	Malden, Nov. 24, 1770		Tenant of Benj. Hall.
wife and 2 children			
Brewer, Moses	Waltham, Feb. 16, 1773		Apprentice to Eben^r. Hall, Jr.
Brigden, Timothy		Aug. 31, 1797	
Bright, Jonathan	Charlestown, Sept. 9, 1760		In family of Sam'l Wakefield. 3 months old.
Brooks, Jonas			
Anna (wife)	Woburn (no date)		In house of Abigail Brooks.
Brothers, Sarah	Reading, Sept., 1763	Nov. 30, 1763	Dau. Mrs. Thos. Richardson.
Brown, Abigail	Boston, Oct. 2, 1759	Nov. 21, 1759	"Taken in by Phebe Tufts."
Bucknam, Ebenezer	Stoneham, abt. May 1, 1764	Dec. 3, 1764	
Mary (wife)			
Sarah (child)			

Buckman, Edward (Bucknam) Sarah (wife) & negro Venus	Stoneham, May 4, 1763		Tenant of Col. I. Royall.
Bucknam, Jacob Lydia (wife) & child	Braintree, April, 1756	Nov. 27, 1756	
Bucknam James (child)			Notice from Town of Boston, Aug. 27, 1803.
Bucknam. James Mary (wife) Mary, Phœbe, James, Ebenezer, William, Joses } Children	Malden, Dec., 1764	Mar. 1, 1765	
Bucknam, James		Jan. 30, 1791	
Bucknam, Joses		Jan. 30, 1791	Boatman. Son of James.
Bucknam, Leonard		Jan. 30, 1791	
Bucknam, Moses		Jan. 30, 1791	
Budge, James Elizabeth (wife) 3 children	Charlestown, May 3, 1756	Nov. 27, 1756	In house of Step^{n}. Francis.
Budge, Ruth	Charlestown, Nov. 23, 1771		Age 16. In family of Sam'l Angier.
Burdit, Thomas Ruth (wife) Thomas, Daniel } Children	Malden, Apr. 12, 1759	Nov. 21, 1759	Tenants of Benj. Willis & Benj. Parker.

Names.	From. Date.	Warned out.	Remarks.
Burke, Redmon	Cambridge, May 7, 1764		Irishman. Laborer, employed by Col. Royall.
Burnam, Abraham	Sudbury, Aug. 15, 1764		Journeyman, employed by Samuel Tilton.
Burns, Mr., & family	Charlestown, Apr., 1751		Tenant of Simon Tufts.
Butterfield, John	Westford, April 18, 1770	Oct. 8, 1770	In tavern of Hugh Floyd.
Martha (wife)			
Kezia Abraham Ruth } Children			
Buxton, Hannah	Reading, Oct. 19, 1773		Age 28. In family of Sam'l Angier.
Caldwell, Joseph		Aug. 31, 1797	
Caldwell, Robert		Aug. 31, 1797	
Calley, Eleanor	Woburn, May 3, 1754		Maid in family of Jos. Skinner
Cannade, Mathew	Boston, Dec. 21, 1754	(not warned)	In service to John Oakes.
Carding, Anna	Charlestown, Nov., 1766	May 16, 1767	
Carrel, Anna[1]	Lexington, Nov. 17, 1764	Aug. 26, 1765	In family of John Bishop
Carter, John wife and two children "that are of his family"		Nov. 6, 1753	
Caruth, Moses		Aug. 31, 1797	
Chadwick, Hezekiah Tryel (wife) 2 children	Charlestown, Apr. 17, 1754	Feb. 26, 1755	
Chamberlain, Abel		Jan. 30, 1791	

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[1] Anni Carel.

MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Officers

For Year ending March, 1902.

President.

JOHN H. HOOPER.

Vice-Presidents.

LORIN L. DAME,
WILLIAM CUSHING WAIT,
ROSEWELL B. LAWRENCE,
CHARLES H. LOOMIS.

Treasurer.

BENJAMIN F. FENTON.

Recording Secretary.

HERBERT A. WEITZ.

Corresponding Secretary.

GEORGE S. T. FULLER.

Librarian and Curator.

AGNES W. LINCOLN.

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Helen T. Wild,
David H. Brown,
Mrs. J. M. G. Plummer,
Geo. S. T. Fuller,
Rev. C. W. Loomis,
H. A. Weitz.

Membership.

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David H. Brown,
Ellen M. Gill,
Jessie M. Dinsmore,
Geo. S. T. Fuller,
E. D. Brown.

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John H. Hooper,
Wm. Cushing Wait,
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Samuel Cushing.

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Geo. S. Delano,
Wm. Cushing Wait,
H. M. Begien,
Francis A. Wait.

Membership List

Corrected to April, 1901.

* Life Members. † Deceased.

Albree, John, Jr.
Alden, Miss E. L.
Allen, Edward F.
Allen, Oscar H.
†Andrews, Gustavus F.
Archibald, Warren M.
Atherton, Miss Lily B.
Atwood, Miss Louise.
Ayers, Fred E.
Ayres, Miss Alice E.

Baer, John Willis.
Balcom, Edward H.
Barker, William S., Jr.
Barker, Abner H.
Barker, J. Herbert.
Barrett, Miss Mary C.
Batchelder, George L.
Baxter, Hon. Charles S.
Bedell, Daniel.
Begien, Henry M.
Bemis, Miss Fannie E.
†Bean, James.
Bissell, Hezekiah.
Blanchard, Miss Sarah J.
*Boynton, Hon. E.
Bridge, Miss Lucy P.
Broderson, N. H.
Brooks, Frederick.
Brooks, Henry.
*Brooks, Shepherd.
*Brooks, Peter C.
Brown, David H.
Brown, Mrs. Abby D.
Brown, Mrs. Harriet W.
Brown, Edward D.
Brown, George E.
Bruce, Mrs. F. P.
Bullard, B. Frank.
Burbank, Miss Ella L.
Burbank, Miss Ida E.
Buss, Charles B.
Buss, Herman L.

Chany, Miss A. Clara.
Chandler, Dr. N. F.
Chipman, Miss Bessie W.
Clark, Miss Mary S.
Clark, Miss Sarah L.
Clark, Calvin.
Cleaves, Dr. James E.
Cleaves, Mrs. Emmie N.
Coffin, Freeman C.
Coburn, Charles F.
Converse, M. M.
Cordis, Mrs. Adelaide E.
Craig, William C.
Crockett, George W.
Croudis, George A.
Croudis, Mrs. Mabel H.
Cushing, Walter H.
Cushing, Walter F.
Cushing, Mrs. Carrie E.
Cushing, Samuel.
Cushing, Mrs. Samuel.

Dalrymple, Willard.
Dalrymple, Mrs. Julia W.
Dame, Lorin L.
Dame, Mrs. Isabel A.
Davenport, George E.
Davenport, Miss Viola T.
Davis, Miss E. A.
Dean, John Ward.
Dean, Mrs. Lydia E.
Delano, George S.
Delong, Rev. Henry C.
Delong, Mrs. Louise G.
Dennison, Edward B.
Dinsmore, Miss Jessie M.
Doland, Henry B.
Dunham, Charles B.
Durgin, Miss Annie E.

Eddy, Will C.
Eddy, Mrs. Rosalie S.
Evans, Allston H.

Fay, Wilton B.
Fenton, Benjamin F.
Fernald, Mrs. M. T.
Ford, Frederick W.
Foster, George O.
Foster, Mrs. Blanche.
Fuller, G. S. T.

Gibson, George A.
Gibson, Mrs. Ruth.
Gill, Mrs. Ellen M.
Gill, Miss Eliza M.
Gill, Miss Emma F.
Gill, Miss Adeline B.
Gleason, Hon. Daniel A.
Gleason, Charles B.
Gleason, Charles M.
Goodwin, J. Otis.
Goodwin, Mrs. Emma W.
Goodwin, Dr. R. J. P.
Green, Dr. Charles M.
Guild, Gustavus F.
Gunn, J. Newton.

Hall, George S.
Hall, Horace D.
Hall, Dr. Walter L.
Hallowell, Col. N. P.
Hallowell, Richard P.
Hallowell, Mrs. Anna D.
Hallowell, N. Penrose.
Harlow, Miss Catherine E.
Hatch, Frank E.
Hatch, George S.
Hatch, Arthur T.
Haskins, Mrs. M. J.
Hayes, Edward W.
Hayes, Mrs. Ellen R.
Hayes, Mrs. C. B.
Hayes, Miss Martha E.
Hedenburg, Dr. James.
Herriott, Miss Adelaide S.
Hervey, James A.

Hinckley, Miss Ella S.
Hobbs, Lewis F.
Hobbs, Mrs. Victoria B.
Hodges, Gilbert.
Hogan, Mrs. Mary.
Hollis, Benjamin P.
Hollis, Mrs. Mary B.
Hooper, John H.
Hooper, Mrs. John H.

Johnson, Cleophas B.
Jones, Charles N.
Jones, Mrs. Frances W.
Jones, Miss Amy W.
Joyce, Allston P.

Kennedy, Miss Alice J.
Kidder, Fred H.
Kidder, Mrs. C. Edith.
Kingman, William F.
Kummer, Charles E.

Lane, George H.
Langell, Everard I.
Law, Colonel Asa.
Larkin Charles E.
Lawrence, Hon. Sam'l C.
Lawrence, Mrs. Carrie R.
*Lawrence, Rosewell B.
Leavitt, Harry B.
Leary, Mrs. Fanny S.
Leighton, Miss Ella.
Leonard, Benjamin C.
Libby, John F.
Lincoln, Miss Agnes W.
Litchfield, Parker R.
Locke, Edwin F.
Loomis, Charles H.
Loomis, Mrs. Mary B.
Loomis, Rev. Chas. W.
Loring, Clifton.
Loud, Mrs. May Hallowell.
Lovering, Frank W.
Lovering, Hon. Lewis H.

Mansfield, Daniel G.
†Maxwell, William R.
Manning, Leonard J.
Martin, Miss Martha J.
Mayo, Samuel N.
McDonald, James R.
Means, George B.
Miller, Joseph C., Jr.
Moore, Ernest B.
Morrison, Benjamin F.
Morss, Charles H.

Norcross, J. Henry.
Norcross, Mrs. C. J. W.
Norton, John H.
Nottage, Henry B.
Nye, Charles E.

Ober, Joseph E.
Oldfield, Miss Ada.

Page, Mrs. Annie M.
Papkee, J. A.
Parker, Charles H.
Parker, William I.
Parker, Mrs. Anne B.
Peak, Irvin E.
Peak, Mrs. Esther R.
Phemister, Edward A.
Pike, Chester J.
Plummer, Mrs. J. M. G.
†Porter, Miss Helen.

Randall, Edward S.
Remele, George H.
Russell, Miss Cora L.
Russell, Harriet J.

Sampson, Elisha J.
Sampson, George T.
Sargent, Miss Mary E.
Saville, George W. W.
Saville, Mrs. Helen E.
Sawyer, Miss Z.
Segitz, Myra E.
Shultis, Mark.
Shultis, Mrs. Kate D.
Simpson, James B.
Start, Prof. Edwin A.
Start, Mrs. Philena C.
Stetson, George W.
Stickney, Allison M.
Stickney, Mrs. Allison M.
Stone, Miss Katherine H.
Street, John D.
Street, Miss Mary B.
Sturtevant, James S.
†Swan, Charles H.
Swift, Miss Caroline E.
Symmes, Amelia M.
Symmes, Arthur C.

Tay, Mrs. Anna J.
Teele, Edward W.
Thompson, Abijah.
Thompson, Mrs. Susan B.
Thompson, William A.
Tucker, Charles D.
Tufts, James W.

Wait, William Cushing.
Wait, Francis A.
Wait, Miss Hetty F.
Wait, Miss Sarah H.
Washburn, Miss M. L.
Weitz, Herbert A.
Wellington, Mrs. H. E.
Wheeler, Joseph H.
†Whitmore, William H.
Wilber, Nahum E.
Wilber, Mortimer E.
Wilcox, Miss E. J.
Wilcox, Miss Martha C.
Wild, Miss Helen T.
Winkley, William H.
Williams, Lombard.
Withington, Henry.
Wood, Joseph W.
Woolley, Fred H. C.
Wright, Thomas.
*Wright, Walter C.

Honorary Members.

M. E. Chandler.
† Hon. T. S. Harlow.
Mrs. Geo. L. Stearns.
Charles Cummings.

MAJ^{R}: ION^{A}: WADE'S REAL ESTATE[1] DIVIDED.

Compiled by Miss Helen T. Wild.

Midd^{s}: ſs^{t}. ‖ The Subscribers Viz^{t}: William Johnson James Converſe John Greenland Stephen ffrances and Peter Tufts all ffreeholders in Said county being chosen and impowred by the Hon^{ble}. James Ruſsel Esq^{r} Iudge of Probates &^{ta}: for s^{d}. county to make a diviſion of the houſing and Lands of Maj^{r}: Jonathan Wade Esq^{r}. late of Medford in Said county dyed Seized of (who dyed Jnteſtate Nov^{r}: 24th. 1689 and the aboveſaid Committee being Sworn and impowred by the aforeſaid Judge to make a Diviſion of the ſaid deceased's houſing and lands unto and among his Widow & children according to Law We proceeded to a Diviſion and it is as followeth

Eliza : Wade[2] the s^{d}. deceeds Widow &^{ra}—

Impr^{s}: ‖ The Widows $^{1}/_{3}{}^{d}$ of the Houſing and Lands amounts to £534 3 4 one third of the houſing £130^{ll}: Viz^{t}: The Hall in the Brick houſe[3] the Hall Chamber two little rooms at north corner of Said houſe half the East Garret on the Eaſt ſide thereof one third of the Wash houſe the Stable and the Leantos belonging to it and the yards adjoining alſo one half of one Bay in the Barn at the Weſt End & northweſt Side next the floor with the privilege of the floor to threſh her English Corn and the East Cellar all at - - £130^{ll}. - .. - .. alſo the S^{d}. Widow hath set her out Eight Acres of Plowland next adjoining to the ſtable @ 5^{lb}. ꝑ acre that makes £ - .. - .. 40^{ll}. - .. - .. and Nine Acres of very good paſture land adjoining at four pounds p^{r}. acre £36^{ll} - £36 the line runs as the fence goeth from the Garden to the Claypits[1] and so to Maj^{r}: Nath^{ll}. Wades fence One hundred Acres of paſture land more or less adjoyning to this and ſo butting upon Maj^{r}. Wades land the line runs from the West corner of the Orchard Northerly up to the Sawmill pond on the East ſide of s^{d}. pond and ſo home to Charleſtown line[2] comprehending within theſe bounds about twenty acres of wood - - land with a good Sprinkling of Wood in the aforementioned paſtureland and the land of the orchard but only one third of the fruit thereof. Alſo the said Widow hath her $^{1}/_{3}{}^{d}$ of the Marsh Twenty eight Acres more orleſs Set out to her below Wiggins's corner and y^{e}: place called Labour in Vain[3] where the river comes up to the upland and bounded by the River and from thence aline staked out to Maj^{r}. Nathaniel Wade's one marked tree at the West corner of the Island beſides the Stakes.—

---

[1] Jonathan Wade was the son of Jonathan Wade, of Charlestown and Ipswich. He married, 1st, Deborah, daughter of Gov. Thomas Dudley. He owned all the land bordering on the river from Meeting House Brook to a creek which flows into the river at the foot of Linden street, Glenwood. He owned land on the north side of High street, where the brick house is still standing, and in the neighborhood of Forest street. His land extended back into Middlesex Fells.

[2] Elizabeth Wade was the second wife of Jonathan. The town records give no date in regard to her marriage or maiden name.

[3] The "Garrison House" on Brooks lane and Bradlee road, owned by Gen. S. C. Lawrence.

Alſo the said Widow is to have one third of the Rent of the Sawmill[4] and forasmuch as she hath not yet set her out full one third of the Wood she is to have twenty one Cord of wood proportionably out of all the other ſhares Namely Six Cord of Dudley wades ſhare and three apiece out of all and every of the Rest Viz^{t}. three out of Deborah Dunſ-ters three out of Prudence Swann's three out of Katherine Wyers three out of Suſanna

---

[1] The clay pits were on the present Forest street, in the neighborhood of the Medford High School building.

[2] Charlestown lay south and north of Medford. The northern boundary of Medford was a line beginning at the foot of the hills, just north of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, near Malden line, extending north-westwardly to the north-easterly corner of Mr. Geo. H. Russell's farm, on the line between Medford and Winchester. This is the boundary referred to as Charlestown line in this document.

[3] Labor in Vain. See Mr. J. H. Hooper's article in Register, Vol. 3, No. 2.

[4] The site of the old mill can be seen on land of G. M. Stevens, west of Governor's avenue.

Wades and three Cords out of Elizabeth wades The ſaid

Widow

Widow to cut it and cart it away when she pleaſeth. All theſe Particulars make her full Thirds of the Said houſing and Lands quantity for Quality: with one Third of the Wharffe at the bridge with a way through the middle Cellar to her East Cellar—

Secondly Dudley Wade[1] the only Surviving Son of the said deceaſed his double portion of the Said houſing and lands: Viz^{t}: one large Room in the Brick houſe called the Kitchin but may be improved for other Service: One large Cloſset or Buttery called a fflasket the Chamber over the Kitchin with the two Cloſsets therein and a privilege at the Stairs head, the whole West Garret with the Cockloft[2] over it one third of the waſh houſe one half of the great Barn namely the East End with half the Leentos and half the floor and one third of the Wharffe—Twelve acres of good plowland next adjoyning to the Widows Thirds the line runs through the Garden Strait down to the river—and ſixteen Acres of Marsh which goes from the West end of the barn viz^{t}: all the Marſh in thoſe two points and down below no-man's friend[3] taking in two Acres of the next point staked out from the upland to a Creek and ſo to the River but line doth not go over that Creek. Alſo the Said Dudley is to have that little Paſture called the Burying place allowing only one quarter of an Acre of the s^{d}. burying place with a Gang way to it to be a burying place for the whole family.

Alſo the ſaid Dudley Wade is to have One half of the Barn yard adjoyning to his half of the Barn and one third of the fruit of the orchard And one half of the Waſte land about the house, alſo he is to have the whole of the West Cellar with a way through the middle Cellar to it. alſo the Said Dudley hath about forty acres of woodland and paſture land altogether abutting upon Charles-town line adjoyning to the widows Thirds comprehending the ſaw mill Damm and the pond into his Bounds allowing him the whole Sawmill with the Utensils and privileges thereof forever. (Excepting only the Widow's Thirds thereof for her life) and the Reaſons why We allow him the whole Saw mill, not only be-cauſe we have contrived it within his bounds but because the Eſtate is in his Debt who eat but a ſingle Share of the Proviſions when there was a double ſhare due to him of all both Chattels as well as lands All make 305^{ll}. 4. 8^{d} - - - - - - - - - - - £305 .. 4 .. 8

---

[1] Dudley Wade was the son of Jonathan and Deborah (Dudley) Wade. Born Oct. 18, 1683.

[2] This expression seems to imply that the house then had a gambrel roof.

[3] A landing at the foot of Cross street, sometimes called Wade's landing, near F. E. Foster & Co.'s mill.

Thirdly Deborah Dunſter hath one half of the houſe and land at Charleſtown at 20^{ll}: and She hath the greateſt part of her Lands in the third Range[1] namely Thirty three Acres more or leſs at £74^{ll}: that comes down to Prouts marſh[2] Southerly butting upon Dudley's woodland northerly and Eaſterly it butts upon Dudley, Prudence and Elizabeth Wades paſtureland. Eight Acres of Marſh at Wiggins corner bounded by Prudence Swan's

Marsh

Marsh weſt and ſouth and by the river and upland elsewhere @ £38^{ll}.. and awoodlott adjoyning to Dudley Wades Nine Acres and ahalf more or leſs all which make up her One hundred fifty two pounds 12ſ 4^{d}. - £152 .. 12 .. 4

ffourthly Prudence Swann[3] hath part of the Brick houſe Viz^{t}: that Room called the parlour at 35^{ll}. and half the Middle Cellar 1/6th: of the waſh houſe 1/4th: of the East Garret on the North ſide thereof and the

---

[1] The Charlestown wood lots in the present bounds of Medford were divided into five ranges, which are very clearly shown on Walling's map of Medford dated 1855. This land is nearly all included now in the Middlesex Fells reservation.

[2] Swamp.

[3] Prudence Wade married Thomas Swan, of Roxbury, Dec. 27, 1692.

Weſt Bay of the Great Barn and the Leento the Same breadth with a privilege in the floor to threſh on and ¼ of the Barn yards and one quarter of the garden namely the Middle part next Dudley's and ſo to front the highway with a privilege in the Waſte land about the houſe to lay wood on or the like and one ſixth part of the fruit of the orchard Alſo eight acres of Marſh next adjoyning to Deborah Dunsters' upstream butting upon Elisabeth Wades Norweſt the River ſouth and South West the upland northerly || also Nine acres and half more or leſs of woodland next to Deborah Dunſters West of that and butting upon Charleſtown line Northerly Elizabeth Wades Weſterly and ſuſanna's paſture land ſoutherly — also the Said Prudence hath Twelve Acres of paſtureland at the ſouth end of the ſecond range butting upon the River[1] South and partly upon Prouts Marsh, the Widow's thirds East from the West corner of the orchard comprehending into this twelve Acres One appletree at the Weſt corner and ſo it butts upon M^{rs}. Dunſter's weſterly [ ] Wade north — alſo ſeven Acres of Plowland on the Eaſt ſide of the o [ ] corn field adjoyning to Elizabeth Wade's plowland hereinafter mentioned and bounded by the fence elſewhere All theſe together at £152 .. 12 .. 4 allowing her the ſaid Prudence one half that wood lott at Spot pond into her part ———

ffifthly Katherine Wyer[2] hath that houſe by marble's brook[3] at £40^{ll} and about Eighteen Acres of land adjoyning allowing two acres for Highways || and Nine acres and half of woodland more or leſs the Woodland lyeth at the North corner of the farm bounded by Charleſtown [ ] north Thomas Willis West, Suſanna Wade Eaſt and so with that Eighteen Acres by the houſe is bounded by Tho^{s}. Willis' West Stephen ffrances ſouth Deborah Dunſter Eaſt ſuſanna Wade' north || alſo Eight acres of m [ ] more or leſs in the lower Marſh among the Jslands[1] bounded East by her Uncle Nathaniel Wade weſt by ſuſanna Wade ſouth by the River n [ ] by Peter Tufts's upland and the quantity of this Lott is more than some of the Reſt becauſe the quality of it is not ſo good; and the woodlands [ ] are in the bounds thereof belong to her the ſd Katherine make recompence for more than ordinary ponds that are therein. alſo ſhe hath tenpounds in the houſe and land at Charleſtown namely one quarter thereof all which together makes One hund^{d}. fifty two pounds 12ſ 4^{d} - - - - - - - - - - - - - £152 .. 12 .. 4

---

[1] Brook.

[2] Katherine Wade married Eleazar Wyer. There is no record of marriage, but the births of children are recorded.

[3] Meeting House brook.

Sixthly Suſanna Wade[2] hath set out to her eight Acres of Marsh more or leſs that lyeth between the Widows Thirds and her ſister Katherine's part

of

of Marsh butting upon the river ſouth and upon Peter Tufts's upland North the meaſure is larger than ſome of the reſt becauſe the quality is not ſo Good; — alſo there is one Jsland in the bounds thereof which the ſaid Suſanna is to have to make good ſome loſs more than Ordinary in her part by Ponds — alſo ſhe is to have one quarter of the houſe and land at Charleſtown at ten pounds; and ſhe hath ſet out to her Nine Acres more or leſs of woodland bounded by Katherine Wyer Weſt Eliz^{a}. Wade Eaſt Charleſtown line North and her own paſ-ture land South and ſhe hath of paſture land and plowland together Thirty two Acres more or leſs which lyeth between the woodlotts and Katherine Wyer's lott bounded by Tho^{s}. Willis Weſt and Deborah Dunſter Eaſt all theſe parcels together make her portion ——— - £152 .. 12 .. 4

Seventhly and Laſtly Elizabeth Wade hath ſet out to her part of the Brick house namely the parlour Chamber at Twenty five pounds one half of the mid- -dle Cellar

---

[1] Upland in midst of marsh below Foster's court.

[2] Susanna Wade married Stephen Willis, Dec. 18, 1698. Died March 12, 1742.

¼ of the Eaſt Garret ½ of a Bay in the great Barn at the Weſt end next the floor adjoyning to her mother's half Bay beforementioned with a privilege in the floor to threſh English corn on and the Leento the ſame breadth one quarter of the barn yard and one ſixth part of the waſh houſe and one quarter of the garden at the upper End and ſo to front the highway with privilege in the waſte land about the houſe to lay wood on or the like — alſo Eight Acres of Marſh more or leſs next to Dudley Wades butting upon Prudence Swann Eaſterly upon the River ſouth and weſt partly upon Dudley weſt the upland north alſo Nine Acres and a half more or leſs of woodland lying between Prudence and ſuſanna's parts butting upon Charleſtown line north and ſuſannah's paſture land South‖ alſo Eight acres of plow land adjoyning to Dudley's Plowland in the field bounded by Dudley Wade's plowland weſt, Prudence ſwann East, Nath^{ll}. Wade north and by the highway ſouth — Alſo Twenty nine acres of mean paſ- -ture land upon the hills in the ſecond Range between Dudley wade on the North and Prudence Swann on the ſouth widows Thirds on the Eaſt and Deborah Duster on the Weſt and a ſixth part of the fruit of the or-chard and one half of the wood lott at Spott pond namely the West End thereof all theſe particulars put together make her portion £152 .. 12 .. 4 There is alſo a Platt of the farm both upland and marſh drawn by William Johnson Surveyor and herewith preſented to the adminiſtrat^{r} that the Said children may keep for their more direct Jnformation as to their particular parts and all the fences of all ſorts that now are' ſhall remain in the Right of them that own the Land: and the looſe fencing [ ] upon the farm shall be improved to mend the outſide fences belonging to the ſaid farm proportionately — There is alſo one third of the wharffe by the Bridge undiſpoſed of the which we do apprehend proper to lye to the reſt of the Children that have no part therein already to improve amongſt them

af

as they have Occaſion orderly That is the first that comes first ſerved — There will alſo be Occaſion for the Well for every one that lives in the brick houſe the which we do accordingly so order — there will alſo be Occaſion for drift ways through Several of the aforementioned parts both in the marſh and in the upland the which thoſe of the ſaid children that have neceſſity thereof are to have that liberty without making any further allowance for the Same the Committee having conſidered it and made allowance for it already —

And alſo We have laid the Widow's thirds next to the ſons very convenient for him that when she leaves it he may have an opportunity to redeem it —

Thus with much difficulty we have contrived and divided if his Hon^{r}: the S^{d}. Judge pleaſe to confirm it — Mem^{o}: It's agreed before ſigning that the Widows M^{rs} Prudence ſwan and Eliz^{a} Wade ſhall have Liberty of ayard at the West End of the Barn where the old pound ſtood for Yard & Cart ways to the said barn beſides the Yards before mentioned &^{ra}—

William Iohnson
James Converse
Iohn Greenland
Peter Tufts
Stephen Ffrancis

Allowed of the afores^{d} Diviſion ꝑ Ia^{s}. Ruſsel IP.
Entred & Examined ꝑ Sam^{ll}. Phipps Reg^{r}.
E Lib^{o}. 9no: Pa. 245, 6, 7, 8
Examined ꝑ ffra: ffoxcroft Jun Reg^{r}:

Officers of Sarah Bradlee Fulton Chapter, D. A. R., for Year Ending April, 1902.

Regent. — Miss Helen T. Wild; *Vice Regent.* — Miss Eliza M. Gill; *Secretary.* — Miss Ida L. Hartshorn; *Treasurer.* — Miss Jessie M. Dinsmore; *Chaplain.* — Mrs. Sarah E. Fuller; *Registrar.* — Mrs. Emma W. Goodwin; *Historian.* — Mrs. Elizabeth A. Chaney.

Board of Managers. — Mrs. C. Edith Kidder, Mrs. H. Elizabeth Ayers, Miss Emma F. Gill.

AN INCIDENT AT THE FORD.

IN 1644 Gov. John Winthrop, in his journal, describes the following incident as taking place at a ford in Mistick river. From a careful study of the story it is evident that the ford referred to was Mistick ford, and that the parties lived near the farmhouse of Governor Cradock (called Meadford on ancient maps), which was located, as before stated, near the present square: "One Dalkin and wife, dwelling near Meadford, coming from Cambridge where they had spent their sabbath, and being to pass over the River at a Ford, the tide not being fallen enough, the husband adventured over, and finding it too deep, persuaded his wife to stay awhile, but it raining very sore, she would needs adventure over, and was carried away with the stream past her depth, her husband not daring to go help her, cried out, and thereupon his dog, being at his house near by, came forth, and seeing something in the water, swam to her, and she caught hold on the dog's tail, so he drew her to the shore and saved her life."

J. H. H.

NOTES.

MISS HELEN T. WILD, the newly elected Regent of Sarah Bradlee Fulton Chapter, D. A. R., is an active member of the Medford Historical Society, having served in various official positions and on important committees. She has done excellent work in connection with the Register, and articles from her pen have been most interesting and valuable.

She had been the efficient secretary of her Chapter since its formation, and by experience and interest in the work is well equipped for the responsibilities of the Regent's office.

In the list of patriots lending their money to the government between 1777 and 1779 for the prosecution of the war, who later exchanged the bills of credit for the bonds of the then unstable national government, is found the name of only one Medford man, Richard Hall. Besides standing ready to aid his struggling country, he served his town in the various capacities of selectman, treasurer, clerk, and moderator.

May 12, 1760, the town voted to purchase two fire-hooks. These were the first pieces of fire apparatus that the town owned so far as we have any record.

The first fire-engine was purchased with money raised both by taxation and by subscription. In 1763 the town raised by tax £26 13s. 4d. for this purpose. The first fire-engine is said to have been named the "Grasshopper."

March 11, 1765, the town appointed nine firewards and twelve engine-men. Isaac Royal, Esq., was one of the firewards.

The frontispiece in this number is reproduced through the courtesy of Mr. W. C. Eddy.

There is an increased demand for the past numbers of the Register, and a number of sets have been sold recently. The supply is limited, and when exhausted the yearly volumes will have a largely increased value.

HISTORICAL ITEMS.

Feb. 7, 1632: On this day Governor Winthrop, Mr. Nowell, and others, crossed our ford in Medford, and travelled on an exploring expedition towards the north-east, and came "to a very great pond, having in the midst an island of about one acre, and very thick with trees of pine and beech; and the pond had divers small rocks standing up here and there in it, which they therefore called Spot Pond. They went all about it on the ice."

1647: Medford was under the following law: "Ordered that no lover shall seek the hand of his chosen one till he has asked permission of her parents. Penalty for the first offence £5; for the second £10; and for the third imprisonment." According to this, an element of danger must have been introduced into the courting of those days.

1670: Some Indian children were brought up in our English families, and afterwards became idle and intemperate. A gentleman asked the Indian father why this was so. He answered: "Tucks will be tucks, for all old hen be hatch 'em."

1810 : Medford had a large choir of volunteer singers, under the faithful Ephraim Bailey. One Sunday the pitch pipe set the pitch so high that the whole choir broke down. General Brooks could not endure it any longer, and he rose in his pew, beckoned to Bailey, and said, "Hadn't you better take another pitch?" Bailey replied, "No, sir, I guess we can get through it."

Rev. Mr. Osgood boarded many years in the family of Deacon Richard Hall, and a very close intimacy blessed both parties afterwards. One Sunday Mrs. Hall was taken ill in church, and her husband went out with her. After some time the deacon returned. As soon as he had shut the door, Mr. Osgood stopped in his preaching and said, "Mr. Hall, how is aunt now?" "She is better," was the reply.

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THE LATE HON. ELEAZAR BOYNTON.

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The Medford Historical Register.

Vol. IV. JULY, 1901. No. 3.

ELEAZAR BOYNTON.

By Charles H. Loomis.

THE life of the Hon. Eleazar Boynton, which closed in Medford, June 5, 1901, was a marked and pleasing example of a well-rounded career: In character a manly Christian; in business a successful merchant; in political life honored by his fellow citizens; in religious and church interests an earnest worker; in benevolence a consistent and generous giver; in social life a welcome friend; and in the family circle highly favored and happy.

The termination of a life built upon such foundations, and with such environment, must of necessity leave a place difficult to fill in the circles affected by it. The contemplation of a long, honorable, successful, and lovable life is always interesting. Its memories are satisfactory, its lessons are inspiring.

Mr. Boynton was born in Rockport, Essex County, Sept. 29, 1824. His early education was obtained in the public and private schools of his native town, supplemented by a course of instruction at Phillips Academy, Andover.

He came to Boston at the age of twenty-one, and entered the wholesale grocery and ship chandlery establishment of Boynton & Miller, becoming a partner in the firm in 1849. In 1855 the firm-name was changed to that of N. Boynton & Co. In 1868 Hon. Nehemiah Boynton died, and Mr. Boynton became the senior member of the firm, continuing as such till January 1 this year, when he retired from business. The firm constantly increased its business, mainly through the sterling business integrity of Mr. Boynton. It added to its line of goods, and became one of the largest manufacturers and dealers in cotton duck in the country.

Mr. Boynton was for years a vice-president and trustee of the Medford Savings Bank, holding that position at the time of his decease. For years he was a director of the Blackstone National Bank, Boston, being president of the bank at the time of its going out of business. Among the other prominent positions held by Mr. Boynton may be mentioned : President of the United States Cotton Duck Manufacturers' Association, president of the United States Duck Cotton Dealers' Association, and president of the Russell Mills, Plymouth.

Mr. Boynton was a member of the school board of Boston for some years while he lived in that city, and when he moved to Medford he was honored in a like manner. In 1861 he was a member of the "war board of selectmen," and chairman of the board in 1862, and to him is largely due the credit Medford has enjoyed as one of the most loyal communities at that critical time in the history of the nation — that of contributing the first quota of men to join the Union army, while the last company mustered out of active service was largely composed of Medford's brave sons.

In 1865 he represented Medford in the House of Representatives, and in 1885 and 1886 represented the First Middlesex District in the Senate.

Mr. Boynton was married in Boston, Oct. 9, 1852, to Mary Chadbourne. Their union was blessed with four children : Mary, wife of L. A. Dodge, Edward P. Boynton, Rev. Nehemiah Boynton (pastor at Detroit, Mich.), and Elizabeth L. Boynton. The wife and children all survive him.

As has been stated, his home life was a happy and devoted one. He took a parent's justifiable pride in the development and popularity of his son Nehemiah's ministerial career. The writer well recalls the pleasure which beamed in every feature of the father's kindly face as he would ask, "Did you hear the boy preach to-day?" Mr. Boynton was identified with all movements of local interest. He was a life member of the Town Improvement Society, and when the financial interests of that organization were merged into the Medford Historical Society he became a life member of the latter society, and at its last public meeting advocated its claims and urged the importance of a large membership.

Mr. Boynton was a man of dignified and courtly manners, always gracious and approachable, and endowed with the happy faculty of "saying the right thing in the right place." The sentiment expressed by one of his sons will find a response in many hearts: "Our father lived a noble life. We can best honor his memory by trying ourselves to live true and noble lives."

REMINISCENCES OF AN EARLIER MEDFORD.

A Familiar Talk before the Medford Historical Society.

JAMES A. HERVEY.

IT is with much hesitation, not to say reluctance, that I consented to appear before you to-night. Most of the topics of primary interest connected with the history and evolution of Medford have been fully and ably treated by other members of the Association in the papers they have read before it, and I have been much at loss for a subject. But the chairman of your committee urged that a gap was to be filled, and has wedged me into it. To meet his wishes in a very informal manner I bring together some of my earliest recollections of Medford and its people, going back to the year 1836, when my parents took up their residence in this town. Some of these reminiscences have already appeared in print, but they are essential to my purpose, and will probably be new to most of you.

I was about eight years old when Medford became my home, and I have a very distinct recollection of the impression the town made upon me on my first introduction to it. It had then a population of little more than two thousand two hundred, pretty widely scattered. You must remember that since then we have lost some territory, taken from us to help form the towns of Somerville and Winchester. The older part of the town showed all the marks of its antiquity, and its general aspect was one of old-time respectability. I do not suppose, however, there were a dozen houses in Medford at that time that cost more than six thousand dollars. They were plain but substantial structures that accorded well with the homely ways and thrifty habits of the earlier New England generations. There was plenty of timber in the frames of these buildings, not held together with ten-penny nails, but well mortised and well braced, calculated to set at defiance a September gale or a winter blizzard. These houses were all hand-made. The mechanics of those days could frame their own sashes and doors, and could turn out, often with self-made tools, the most elaborate mouldings. We have one of them in our own body in the person of our respected fellow-citizen, Mr. Cleophas Johnson — long may he live ! but his works will live after him.

To resume my description of Medford: the public square and high street as far as Meeting House brook, looked very much as they do now, making allowance for some changes in buildings — not very many. Between Meeting House brook and the Lowell railroad there were very few houses — not more than half a dozen, as I remember. West Medford had then practically no existence as a settlement. There was but a house or two on Purchase street (now North Winthrop street) as far as the present Winchester line ; and the same might be said of Forest street up to the Stoneham line, — as well as of Salem street below Fulton street to the Malden line. On Main street, from the present Stearns' avenue to the Somerville line, there were only two or three houses.

To sum the matter up, the bulk of the population of the town lived within half a mile of the square, including Ship and Park streets, Union street, — then called Back street, — and a portion of South street as far as the Winthrop-street bridge. There were but three houses on the Medford turnpike, now called Mystic avenue.

I think I have given you a pretty accurate account of the distribution of the population of Medford in 1836. With boyish enterprise I soon made myself acquainted with the topography of the town. Let me tell you of a little incident which happened to me the first time I crossed over to the south side of Cradock bridge — then a wooden drawbridge. I had just got over when a great hulking boy stepped up to me, looked me in the face, lifted his fist and straightway knocked me down — all this without saying a word. He was probably influenced by the feeling illustrated in a story of "Punch." Two cads are standing on the street. One says to the other, "Bill, who is that fellow over there?" "Don't know, — a stranger, I guess." "Heave half a brick at him, Bill!"

The fighting spirit was rife among Medford boys in that day — fostered, I think, by the immemorial feud which had existed between the boys of Medford and Charlestown, and which had found its field of action on the canal in skating time every winter. They fought some pretty stiff battles at those times, not without bloodshed. Our town boys used, in Homeric fashion, to taunt their opponents with this doggerel:

"White cockade and peacock feather,
Medford boys will fight forever;
Charlestown pigs stay in their sties,
Afraid of getting bunged-up eyes!"

Just the same, the Charlestown "pigs" did not acquit themselves ingloriously. It is dangerous to call your adversaries *pigs*, as the Spanish have found out.

Before passing on, let me say that the boy who knocked me down so summarily, a few months later sat next to me in school. We became very good friends and he used to bring me nice apples from his father's orchard — the "high-top sweetings" of those days, which, like many other good things, have passed away. I asked him one day why he had struck me. "Oh," said he, reassuringly, "only for fun." It was all very well, but I couldn't help thinking the "fun" was very unevenly divided. The poor fellow a few years later went to sea with Captain Redmond of this town, and while the ship was lying at New Orleans fell from the yard-arm and was killed. His life was short, and perhaps I ought not to be sorry to remember that during its brief term it fell to my lot to contribute something to his amusement. But he struck very hard.

Of the old inhabitants of Medford I might say a good deal if time permitted. I have seen among them people of pre-Revolutionary birth, and of course they had the ways and manners of the olden time. Some of them were men of marked character and wide experience, and there were traits of eccentricity in others, the display of which was always interesting. We boys used to like to sit in a corner of the old reading-room in the square and listen to their talk. There was old Mr. Andrew Blanchard, the most irascible of men, who could never endure any allusion to the new church which the First Parish had built, because he had lost his pew in the old one. He never set his foot in the new edifice. His intimates liked to goad him by introducing the objectionable topic, for these old gentlemen were much addicted to guying each other. On such provocation Mr. Blanchard would leap from his chair and emphasize words of passionate protest with thumps of his cane upon the floor. Then there was old William Bradbury, who would never stay in church after twelve o'clock. As soon as the clock sounded its first note he jumped from his seat, seized his hat, opened the pew door, slammed it, and wrathfully stumped his way out of the church.

All this reminds me of the fact that very many of the families of the town, formerly quite prominent in its business and social life, are no longer represented here. The Blanchards in the earlier day were very numerous. There were several families of them, all of them probably nearly or remotely connected. In looking over the register of baptisms kept by Mr. Thomas Seccomb, parish clerk, and covering the years from 1737 to 1776, I was surprised to see how many of the recipients of the sacred ordinance bore the name of Blanchard ; they made up a good percentage of the whole number. I know of but one or two of the stock now living here. By the by, the register I have referred to records the fact that one infant was baptized who was born on the morning of the Sunday on which the rite was administered ! Thus they snatched a brand from the burning !

The Bishops were also a prominent family in Medford for more than a century. Mr. Nathaniel Bishop died in 1850, and after his death his children took up their residence in other parts of the country. I also have a kindly remembrance of the fine family of the Clisbys, with which I was very intimate in my boyhood. They are all dispersed. Aaron Warner Clisby, my especial friend and playmate, is, or was a few years ago, a clergyman in Alabama.

The name of Swan was also well known and honored sixty years ago. No one bears that name here now. Mr. Samuel Swan had a family of seven children, and of them I have heard this story : Some one asked which of two of his sons, Lincoln or Timothy, was the elder. "Let's see," was the answer ; "there are Sam, Dan, Jo, Han, Lin, Tim, and Ca — Oh, Lin is the elder ! " The names, properly extended, were Samuel, Daniel, Joseph, Hannah, Lincoln, Timothy, and Caleb. Daniel Swan was the beloved physician of this town, and most pleasantly remembered by our citizens who have passed middle age.

One of the most interesting memorials of the past standing in Medford was the Tufts house in the public square, on the western corner of Forest street. It was torn down in 1867. It was a large unpainted wooden building, three stories high in the front, and sloping down to one low story in the rear. Such was the picturesque style of building our fathers affected a century and a half ago. During the later years of its existence the house was in a dilapidated, not to say ruinous, condition, its bulging walls and sunken floors threatening immediate collapse. I think it was only upheld by its immense chimney — the largest I ever saw — which stood in the centre of the house. Portions of the building were utilized to the last. In the front apartment, on the east side, I can remember that a small bookstore was kept by a Mr. Randall, who had also the charge of the social library which found a place in the room. The same room was afterwards occupied as a barber's shop, and in a room behind it Mr. Gillard kept his fish market. The front room on the western corner was for many years used for the reading-room to which I have already referred, and concerning which I shall have something more to say. A very faithful likeness of the Tufts building will be found in Usher's edition of "Brooks' History."

And the Tufts family played an important part in the earlier and later history of the town. The founder of the family, Mr. Peter Tufts, was born in England in 1617, and came to New England somewhere about 1638 and was one of the earliest settlers of Malden, where he was a large land-owner. He also bought of Cradock's heirs 350 acres of land in what is now one of the most thickly settled parts of Medford. His son, Capt. Peter Tufts, resided in Medford and was the father of Dr. Simon Tufts, the first physician of the town. It seems likely that he was the builder of the house in the square which Brooks, I know not by what authority, says was built in 1725. Dr. Simon Tufts was succeeded by his son, Dr. Simon Tufts, Jr., a man of high character and excellent professional standing. In my earliest recollection of the Tufts house it was occupied by Mr. Turell Tufts, son of Dr. Simon Tufts, Jr., who died in 1842.

I well remember Mr. Turell Tufts, a stout gentleman of florid countenance and somewhat imperious ways. He had at one time been consul at Surinam, and had accumulated a handsome fortune for those days. In later years he became one of the town's magnates, filling at different periods the offices of town treasurer, chairman of the board of selectmen, representative, etc., but at the time of which I write he had retired from affairs and was enjoying with dignity a gentlemanly leisure. I think he never married, but he kept house in the old mansion and diffused a generous hospitality. I take it he was fond of books, for he left $500 to the Social Library, the income of which still inures to the benefit of our Public Library. I may be fanciful, but as I call up the picture of him in my memory he reminds me of one of the East Indian nabobs who figure so largely in old English novels and comedies — choleric and gouty old gentlemen, much given to port, curry, and mullagatawny, and always sure to portion off their nephews and nieces in the handsomest manner in the closing scenes. Mr. Tufts seems to have held to heroic practices in matters dietetic ; he is reported to have said that the reason why mince-pies hurt people was because they did not "make them rich enough."

The sidewalk in front of Mr. Turell Tufts' house used to be our favorite resort for a game of marbles. We found a pleasant shade under the two mighty buttonwoods, and the ground was smooth and hard. Here on a pleasant day might have been seen Parson Stetson's sons, the Halls, Lawrences, Clisbys, Sam Gregg, Charley Ballou, John Burrage, and others who shall be nameless. Charles Ballou was a dead shot at marbles, and when he aimed at your "alley," six feet off, it was a good plan to say good-by to it. When the play became noisy, Mr. Tufts would sally out from his front door, wildly flourish his cane, and order us off. So David Copperfield's Aunt Betsey Trotwood used to rush out to drive the intrusive donkey from her green. We obeyed, but the retreat was only temporary; we went back as soon as the old gentleman resumed his nap, but were very careful not to disturb him again. I think half his fierceness was assumed.

It was after the death of Mr. Tufts that the reading-room was established in his house. It was a very important institution in town at that date, for few people subscribed to a daily paper, and news-stands were unknown. The room was a sort of club-room, where people met to learn the latest intelligence, but more particularly to chat over local matters. When some event of public importance had happened the boys used to drop in to look at the papers, and their presence was always tolerated. Only Boston papers were taken — the "Advertiser," "Post," "Atlas," the "Evening Journal" (the "Journal" was then published as an evening paper), and the "Transcript."

Here one got a glance at the older Medford, which had even then almost passed away. As I have already stated, many of those who made the reading-room their resort were men of advanced age, and might be considered as links connecting the centuries. Beside those I have already mentioned were Ebenezer Hall, Joseph Manning, 1st., Dr. Daniel Swan, Dudley Hall, and Joseph Swan. Their conversation, reverting to incidents which occurred in their youth, opened vistas into a past which now seems very remote to us. Other patrons of the reading-room, belonging to a later generation, were Samuel Lapham, Joseph Manning, 2d., Daniel Lawrence, George L. Stearns, John Sparrell, Jonas Coburn, George Hervey, Dudley C. Hall, Peter C. Hall, George W. Porter, John Clough, Albert H.

Butters, and Col. Francis R. Bigelow, and there were doubtless others whose names escape me. Let it be remembered that I am speaking of the reading-room in the early period of its history. I was not so well acquainted with it afterwards. When the Tufts House was taken down the quarters of the club were removed to a building on the east side of Pasture Hill Lane (recently taken down), and there they remained until death had so thinned the ranks of its members that it could no longer be maintained. I have spoken at this length of the old reading-room, because it made quite a feature in the social life of the town, and exercised a considerable local influence.

The nature of my task compels me to be discursive. Let me say a few things about the Medford House, which has occupied its present site for nearly a century. It was built by Andrew Blanchard in 1804, although I have been told that the piazza which runs along three sides of the main building is of a later date. The Medford House, with its ample yard, large stable, and convenient outbuildings, — always within my remembrance neatly kept, — meets one's idea of the proper country inn of the earlier day, and its reputation for hospitable entertainment has been maintained through a long course of years. Within the walls of the ancient dining-room many a good dinner has been served to legislative committees, county officers, and local boards, and matters of weighty interest and concern have been discussed, let us hope to better issues, under the influence of mine host's good cheer. Formerly the upper story of the rear of the building was occupied by a hall, which served as the village ball-room, and was sometimes used for concerts and for the exhibitions of professors of legerdemain and itinerant showmen. I regretfully miss the fine buttonwood which used to stand in the centre of the yard, under the shade of which stood the pump and watering-trough ; and, alas, never again shall we see the grand old stage-coach, with its four smoking horses, roll up to the steps of the Medford House!

The proprietorship of the Medford House has passed through many hands, but of no one of the landlords will people who are old enough retain a more vivid recollection than of Augustus Baker. He was an Italian by birth, and a barber by profession. I could never understand where he got his English name, but he had probably adopted it. Entirely without education, he was gifted with native shrewdness, and at one time became possessed of considerable means. He had the peculiar physiognomy of natives of the Mediterranean shores — brown-eyed, crisp-haired, olive-tinted. He had a peculiar way of cutting off the last syllables of words, and used to say he kept a hotel for "prof" (profit) and not for "accommodaish" (accommodation). When twitted of watering his liquor, he answered, "Why, yes, the more water, the more consh" (conscience). He possessed a grim kind of humor, as this story told of him will show: He owned a piece of land in the rear of the hotel premises, and one of his apple trees overhung the fence of a neighboring proprietor who, being a very "close" man, was jealous of the encroachment, and availing himself of what he believed to be his legal rights, cut off the limbs of the tree close to the fence. Baker said nothing, but one day going into his orchard he saw that his neighbor, working in his own field, had thrown his coat upon the fence. The vengeful Italian, creeping up stealthily, took out his knife and cut off that portion of the garment which hung over his own land. He was not addicted to poetry; if he had been, he might have applied to himself the words of Byron:

> "Time at last makes all things even,
> And if we do but wait the hour,
> There never yet was human power
> Which could evade, if unforgiven,
> The patient search and vigil long
> Of him who treasures up a wrong."

It was lynch law, but it came pretty near to being justice, at least to his uninstructed mind.

Let me say a few words about the square and its buildings as they stood about 1840.

As I have said before, I am inclined to think that the general aspect of no other precinct of the city has changed less during the last sixty years than that of the Public Square and its immediate environment. To be sure, some of the old buildings have disappeared and new ones have been put up in their places. The old Cotton bakery and the Tufts house, on either corner of Forest street, have given place to new structures, and the Opera house and Savings Bank, in their architectural bravery, put the plainer buildings in their neighborhood somewhat out of countenance. But in spite of these changes the square has been able to maintain its identity, and I am sure that one familiar with its aspect sixty years ago, though a stranger to it in the interval, would be easily able to recognize it now. Its essential features are unaltered and it has never lost its local flavor.

There is one thing, however, which he would miss if he were standing in the square on a winter's morning — and that would be the long line of ox-teams, wagons or sleds, loaded with cord-wood, stretching from what is now Governor's avenue to Pasture Hill Lane. He would miss Capt. John Sparrell with his measuring rod, vigilant to see that purchasers lost nothing of their proper dues. And he would miss the noble oxen, waving their heads and ruminating their liberal allowance of corn fodder which was spread before them, their warm, fragrant breath floating away on the frosty air, the scene affording a motif to inspire the best efforts of a Paul Potter or a Troyon. The picturesque age has passed and the mechanical has succeeded; the beautiful sky is cobwebbed with trolley wires, and day and night are made hideous with the infernal whiz of the electric car.

Excuse me for this burst of pessimism. I sometimes find the electric car mighty convenient.

To go on with the square and its neighborhood. The present stone bridge is certainly a great improvement on the wooden structure with its teetering draw, which preceded it. It used to be said (our genial fellow-citizen Mr. Henry Moore is my authority) that our military company, the Brooks Phalanx, after partaking of their annual dinner at the Medford House, found considerable difficulty in dealing with the perturbations of the drawbridge ; that they practised a sort of involuntary goose-step, and did a good deal of marching without making much progress. But this was an old-time bit of chaff that never had any substantial foundation. The members of the Phalanx were sober and respectable citizens, and were no more perplexed with the up-and-down motion of the drawbridge than other travellers. I shall always stand by the Phalanx. What pride the old boys of Medford used to take in that company! How we admired the colossal form of Capt. Samuel Blanchard, dressed in a blue uniform with buff facings, his shoulders crowned with an enormous pair of gold epaulets! We followed the Phalanx in the May training in all its marchings and counter-marchings, from Symmes' corner to the Malden line, striving ineffectually to keep step to the music of the band. I remember that the ladies of Medford presented a stand of colors to the company. I wonder if they are in existence now!

But to resume. I have to indulge in episodes; memory runs away with me.

About the time of the building of the railroad station that part of Main street between the bridge and Jonathan Porter's store, now Yerxa and Yerxa's, underwent great changes. A wooden building used to occupy the present site of Bigelow's brick block next the river. This building, or a part of it, was tenanted by Mr. Patrick Conolly, a tall, thin Irishman of severe aspect, a cobbler by profession. General Lawrence tells of Mr.

Conolly that on one St. Patrick's day, after making his usual preparations for attendance upon the festival in Boston, — assuming the swallow-tail coat and high hat essential to the occasion, — he concluded to take his money along with him and, the better to ensure its safety, he pinned it up carefully in the pocket of one of his coat tails. Mr. Conolly straightway proceeded to Boston and devoted himself conscientiously to the celebration of the great national holiday, in which he would appear to have been only too much absorbed; for when he returned home at night, but with some difficulty, on taking off his coat he found that that branch of the establishment in which he had deposited his savings had gone into the hands of a receiver; in other words, somebody had cut off one of his coat tails and, to render the offence more aggravated, he had eliminated the one which contained Mr. Conolly's ducats.

Well, next to the house I have just mentioned, but a little further back from the street, if I remember correctly, was a building which had formerly been occupied as a dwelling-house by Mr. Ebenezer Hall. In this house, until it was removed, Mr. Abner Bartlett, the only lawyer in town at that date, had his office. Here he used to hold his little court as trial justice, and he had always a goodly attendance of boys to witness the proceedings. Squire Bartlett was a scholar and a gentleman, and a sound lawyer, but his manner was eccentric, and in making his notes of the evidence of witnesses he had a funny way of repeating their words. For instance, in a case of assault and battery a witness would depose: "He came up to him and shook his fist in his face." Mr. Bartlett, following the evidence, while writing it down, would say audibly, "Shook his fist, shook his fist, shook his fist in his face, shook his fist in his face." All of this was vastly entertaining to us youngsters. He married the sister of Tristram Burgess, of Rhode Island, member of Congress, and famous for his powers of sarcasm and invective, which made him the rival of John Randolph, of Virginia, with whom he came into frequent collision. It would be difficult to say which of them won the palm in the interchange of vitriolic personalities.

I had intended to give a more complete description of the buildings in the square and its neighborhood, but the enumeration of them would be prolix and interesting only to a few. I will therefore proceed at once to give some account of the schools of Medford as I passed through them from 1836 to 1842.

I first attended the Cross-street Grammar School, kept of Mr. Aaron Magoun, afterwards a much-respected teacher in one of the Cambridgeport schools, of which he was master for a very long term of years. The Cross-street school was a school very much after the antique pattern. Boys and girls attended of all ages, from eight years to twenty. The teacher had twice or thrice as much to do as he could attend to, and the discipline was of a very rough-and-ready sort. The curriculum which I followed up was remarkable for its limitations: a lesson in Colburn's Mental Arithmetic, a reading exercise, and a lesson in spelling,— the memorizing of a column of words from the spelling-book,— all very long words of five or six syllables, which I have never had occasion to use since. When I left the school, after attending it a year, I am sure I should have spelt the word "which" with a "t" in the centre. I never *wrote* a word while in the school. Having a good deal of leisure on my hands, I spent part of it in swapping marbles with my neighbor and in drawing pictures of ships and horses on my slate. Every boy in Medford could then draw the picture of a ship — it was his duty to pay homage to the local industry. The monotony of the day was varied by an occasional call to the desk, and you retired from a short interview with the teacher with resentment in your heart and a good deal of inflammation in your hand. I never knew a teacher who could strike the end of one's fingers with the masterly precision which characterized Mr. Magoun's handling of the ruler. I don't think I learned much while at Mr. Magoun's school, except to draw a ship and a horse — the latter with both fore-feet off the ground and a monstrous redundancy of tail. But yet these were accomplishments not to be despised.

Afterwards I attended school in the old brick schoolhouse behind the Unitarian Church. It was kept by Mr. Benj. F. Tweed, afterwards professor of rhetoric in Tufts College, and a supervisor of schools in Boston. He was an excellent teacher and did the best that could be done with the incongruous elements of which his school was made up. Here I learned something of geography, arithmetic, and grammar — not much of grammar except to commit the definitions to heart — as "A verb is a word which signifies to be, to do, and to suffer." Only Kant and Hegel could gain any information from that definition. I attended this school during the last two years of Mr. Tweed's incumbency, when he was succeeded by Mr. Foster, — an excellent teacher and a good man. I attended his school for a year, and was then admitted to the High School, being twelve years old. Of course I was very imperfectly qualified for such an advancement, but the conditions for admission to the school were not so severe as they are now. I was a tolerable reader, but a very bad speller. It was with extreme difficulty that I have learned to spell since; in fact I haven't. Of English grammar, like most graduates from grammar schools of that date, I knew absolutely nothing, for I had studied only in the formal way of which I have already spoken just long enough to gain an "acquired ignorance" of the whole subject. My best hold was on mathematics, for which I had some natural aptitude. A year after entering the school I entered upon the study of Latin, and then the darkness which hung over English grammar was lifted; for Latin is an inflected language, and from the change of terminations one learns what is meant by the agreement and relations of words in the application of the rules of syntax.

My first teacher in the High School was Mr. Daniel H. Forbes, a very earnest and faithful instructor. He was succeeded by Mr. Isaac Ames, a graduate of Dartmouth, afterwards Judge of Probate of Suffolk County. He was a man of broad culture and high aims, and his bright personality at once impressed itself upon the school. To come under the influence of a mind of original power, and of a nature ardent, generous, and manly, is to young people the best part of a liberal education, and such was the good fortune of those who attended the High School during the incumbency of Mr. Ames.

The course of study in the old High School was of a mixed character. It was almost altogether an English course. We took up arithmetic, geography, bookkeeping, algebra, plain geometry, ancient history, moral, intellectual, and natural philosophy, botany, chemistry, and Latin — all of course in a rudimentary way, but intelligently, and to good results. It was, so far as it went, a sound school. No Greek was taught until near the close of Mr. Ames' term of service, and no modern language.

With Mr. Ames' retirement closed my connection with the High School. I left it to attend the private school of Mr. Day, kept in the larger building which used to occupy the site upon which the residence of Mr. Joseph Manning, on Forest street, now stands. Mr. Day was the successor of Mr. John Angier, long and favorably known as the principal of a boarding-school which obtained a high repute under his management, and which was at one time attended by George W. Curtis and by pupils from other States, and from the West Indies.

I might go on interminably, but I spare you. The story is long when one abandons himself to memory. I have tried to give you a glimpse of the Medford of sixty years ago. If we could find somewhere, in some way, the diary or journal of some Puritan Samuel Pepys, dating say back to the year 1650, recording the story of the building up of the town of Medford, — telling of the people, their ways and manners, their thoughts and experiences, — what would we not give for it! The lack of such information leaves us in the dark as regards the earliest history of Medford. We only know that there was a Mr. Davidson who represented Governor Cradock and who was in his interests in this town. Who his coadjutors and companions were, and what they did — of this we know nothing, and never shall. They had no reporter.

ELIZUR WRIGHT AND THE MIDDLESEX FELLS.

[Extract from a paper read by Miss Ellen M. Wright, before the Medford Historical Society.]

"IN his later years Mr. Wright deemed forest preservation among the most urgent of his causes. He was a member of the American Forestry Association, and whenever possible made his voice heard at its gatherings; but in this interest his most important achievements were the rescue of a territory of Minnesota land from a speculation criminally destructive of its forests, and in his widely known effort to secure the Fells as a forest park, of which the Metropolitan Park System is the outcome. In 1844, while in England, he was strongly impressed with the necessity of forests in or near every large city, and in 1847 suggested through his paper, the 'Chronotype,' the establishment of a great 'rural playground' for Boston such as Greenwich is to London. And premonitory of the Metropolitan effort he says: 'A fine park might be had in two or three places on our harbor open to the sea breezes. A better one could be had by purchasing the noble Blue Hill from which the State takes its name. A whole mountain for a playground — only think of it!' But in 1864, the year he came to live in Medford, another site, richer and more varied in its wild pictures and with a larger promise of a future forest, revealed itself in the old five mile woods or Middlesex Fells, and though at no period of his crowded life harder pressed for time, with God's command in every breath-giving tree, and the cry of breath-starved children in every by-way of Boston, to neglect this fresh call was not in him. That rocky, rambling ground, good for nothing but woods, seemed to him the 'predestined gift of nature,' and he had no sooner made himself master of its natural boundaries and resources than he began exhibiting it to others and in 1869 urged its claims to be secured before a committee of the city council specially appointed in behalf of a park or parks for Boston. The paper he read was one which bears the name he had given his Fells, 'Mt. Andrew Park.' The outcome of the meeting which was held in December was the passage of a law in 1870 which allowed land to be taken by the city for its park or parks within or near the city limits; but unfortunately this bill had in its Section 17 a proviso by which it couldn't take effect without a two-thirds vote of the city's legal voters, — it was to have been a majority vote, but a grudging amendment raised it, — and as according to the city records, out of 15,149 legal voters only 5,916 wanted a park or to have others have one, the law was killed. Boston, in vulgar phrase, 'had cut her nose off to spite her face.'

"Mr. Wright, whose hope was for lungs, — large oxygen exhaling Fells and Blue Hills lungs, — wrote of this action April 26, 1861: 'The well guarded park bill of last year, which submitted the whole problem of the future beauty and grandeur of our city to a competent and impartial commission, was defeated in the interest of projectors who have manifest private ends to serve. Everybody has private ends; and the public is not about to forego its own ends, lest somebody should be privately benefited by it. It ought to, and will do the best it can for its whole self, without injury to any individual, and if any individual is enriched by it, so much the better for him or her. Let us have fair play, and no dog-in-the-manger.' But in 1875 Boston, in the passage of a law which, negatively expressed, *restricted* municipalities from securing park land *outside* their *own* limits, Boston again played 'dog-in-the-manger,' and did not play fair, either to her own vital need of pure air and water, or to her future grandeur, — still less to the necessities of the case ; for the Fells and Blue Hills, her only chance for anything like a forest, were under distinct jurisdictions. Without just such a course as Mr. Wright in 1880 had the foresight and the insight to pursue, and the courage to persist in, these two most beautiful and most vitally needed of our parks would have been wholly lost to us. The ordinary legislative programme, or process, used later in the Metropolitan idea, could not, or rather *would* not, have been carried out without its help. Mr. Wright had not done pioneer work all his life not to know that his purpose in the Fells was something too far outside the city limits as to philanthropy and comprehensiveness not to need its practicality manufactured for it. Until 1880, hoping younger men, and men who though wise and good were not, like him, so strongly identified with unpopular good causes as to have incurred the enmity of the ruling mammon powers, would take the matter up, he continued writing, lecturing, exhibiting the Fells, and in other ways preparing the way ; but no independent effort was made, and in 1880 he put his own wits to work. Knowing the necessity of forest contiguity to the purity of the air and the protection of water sources, it seemed all important to him that the entire 4,000 natural Fells acres should be taken at one time, and thus be under a wholly unitary control, and to this end his plan proposed to secure the Fells by a two-thirds vote and appropriation from its municipalities, and to encourage this vote it called for a voluntary contribution sufficient to extinguish private titles, which at the appraised value of that date he found to aggregate about $300,000. This contribution took the form of a pledge, the payment of which was conditional upon the vote being favorable. So large a tax on so small a thing as private or disinterested public enterprise did not promise the success his plan deserved ; but the practical politicians to whom Mr. Wright had appealed, though unanimous in applauding his object, still echoed the governmental hopelessness which eleven years earlier had met the same appeal from H. W. S. Cleveland, and in overcoming this hopelessness, Mr. Wright knew the worth of his plan. Its social and educational force under the wit of his pen, and the inspiring influence of his direction, were factors that had been found effective in the working out of problems far more hopeless. When Sylvester Baxter in his 'Boston Park Guide' wrote of it, 'The public sentiment aroused by this agitation finally led to the establishment of the Metropolitan Park System,' he was writing history, not politics ; but whether history in the future will fully realize the forestal grandeur and vital benefits sown by Mr. Wright in that public sentiment depends, to my thinking, on a different treatment of the woods than they have thus far received. A generous public sentiment and a tree are things far easier to destroy than to make grow ; and the practical politicians whose wishes enter into the present park's control know just how to do it. Had the Fells park been established under Mr. Wright's plan nothing in the mutability of human affairs could have furnished a surer safeguard to its permanency, or that of its most important benefit, the forest, than the private ownership feature of that part voluntary purchase ; but let us hope that enough of the public sentiment and of the *woods* may be spared, that the former growing yearly stronger on the increasing worth and beauty of the latter may still work to the same good end.

On Oct. 15, 1880, Mr. Wright called together some two hundred people, and on Bear Hill formed a small association to devise plans and the measures for carrying them out. Two plans were sketched, Mr. Wright's and that of Wilson Flagg. Mr. Wright's embraced the distinct and yet harmonious purposes of both, and was the one adopted. During the next two months, these able advocates had made such headway that the mass meeting held in the Medford Town Hall on Jan. 1, 1881, was packed with eager listeners and addressed by speakers who having just returned from a smart drive through the Fells were strong for their preservation. Eighteen hundred and eighty-one later on was the year of the Ravine woods desecration, and this heartless and selfish destruction Mr. Wright did his best to prevent, but the owners in an attempt to take advantage of his public spirit charged a price so exorbitant, that he could neither pay it nor, in the time allowed, get it subscribed. Forced to abandon his hope, he determined those grand old saviors of mankind should perish only to save their brother trees, and his work for his Fells was redoubled. He had already established "Forest Festivals," which were held yearly and in different parts of the Fells, that its attractions might supplement the speaking, or rather might speak for themselves; and in 1883, in his "Forestry Law" of 1882, Chap. 255, he had secured all the legislation necessary to his plan, and to the taking of lands by it anywhere in Massachusetts; had enlisted trustees to take charge of his conditional obligations; had obtained toward the subscription written pledges to the amount of $14,102, and verbal promises of more than twice that sum, and had begun the work of organizing "Public Domain Clubs" in the Fells municipalities and in Boston, for he did not forget that Boston's obligation should be measured by her benefits, which acting in concert with the Fells Association might elect committees and employ canvassers. Such a club, comprising some two hundred members, he caused to be formed in Medford. What little help he had thus far had on the subscription had come solely from a few who loved the woods and a good deed, but at this stage of his progress an organized effort was of course a necessity, and to effect it needed that a few other men as enterprising as himself should, independent of his prompting or aid, form the clubs needed in the other places. Such cheering help did not reward him, but he did not cease trying to bring it about. If there was not enterprise enough for his own plan, he had its purpose still at heart. His last Forest Festival was held, I think, in 1885, the last year of his life; and its special object was so to strengthen the Fells Association as to help him in this work. In his last year too, by his invitation or influence, the National Forestry Congress was held in Boston. Toward its success, and that of his object, with the added hope of lending some little favor toward the establishment of similar forest parks near other large cities, he made every effort. This was in September. Feeling his strength on the wane, his work till the day of his death was to see such other men as he hoped, after it, might take the matter up. And on November 21 he died, bequeathing to the later undertaking the credit and the crown his own had earned, and with them, through his children's love, the beautiful woods of Pine hill and its neighborhood."

CONTRACT FOR REBUILDING CRADOCK BRIDGE.

1829.

Copied by John H. Hooper.

MEMORANDUM of articles of agreement entered into by the undersigned, being a Committee of the Town of Medford, appointed to build a new bridge where the Great Bridge now stands, or to repair the same, on the one part, and Samuel Chittenden Bridge builder, on the other part, witnesseth — to say

An entire new bridge is to be built, extending from the stone abutments or walls recently built, from North to South the whole length being about sixty five feet, and width about thirty eight feet, with a draw in the place, where the present draw is placed, the said draw to be made of two leaves, — and the width from east to west, Thirty feet, and from North to South Twenty nine feet, leaving thereby a passageway for vessels of twenty nine feet, and furnished with Machinery, and Iron chains to raise it, in all respects equally sufficient for the purpose, as the draw now is on Warren Bridge at Charlestown. The said Bridge is to rest on the Stone Abutments on each side, and on white oak piles to be driven into the ground at proper distances, so as to form the passageway for vessels. The said piles to be at least thirteen inches square at the top, with white oak caps in proportion. The string timbers of the Bridge parts to be six & a half inches wide, & thirteen inches deep, — and those of the draw to be at least sixteen inches at the ballast end and seven by ten inches at the ends where the leaves meet, with proper and sufficient white oak caps, — the piles to be braced as they are done at Warren Bridge.

The wheels of the draw machinery to be of the same kind of wood with iron cog rings, and the draw to be balanced with iron ballast in like manner.

The whole to be planked with good pine plank free of sap, three inches in thickness, and sheathed with spruce plank of two inches in thickness.

A single railing is to be made the whole length of the bridge on both sides, and an inside railing to guard foot passengers as far as the draw.

And the said Samuel Chittenden has agreed and does hereby agree to build a Bridge as above described & with good and sufficient materials, in every respect sound and strong, & with like machinery as now in use at Warren Bridge, to the acceptance of said committee, the whole to be completed within the term of forty days, and the work to be done without any obstruction to the public travel, in so far as the west part of the Bridge and Draw is to be first built, and the east part of it is to be sufficiently supported so as to allow of all the travel to pass thereon, until the west part is built. And as a full compensation for the said work and materials without any other expense whatever to the Town of Medford, the committee on their part agree, that the said Town shall pay to the said Samuel Chittenden the Sum of Fifteen Hundred Dollars. — and no bills for extra work or materials are to be demanded or allowed, unless previously authorized by the committee it is further understood, that the hoisting post & railing to be of pine, & the barrell for the chains to run on, to be of black or yellow oak, & also that the pig iron ballast now on the draw, is to be used by said Chittenden without cost to him, and that the Committee shall furnish a proper plan to do the work, also free of expense, and further that the string timbers where the gudgeons are inserted shall be ten inches by twelve, the gudgeons of wrought iron and boxes of Cast iron.

And the parties to these presents have hereunto interchangably set their hands this Seventh day of July Eighteen Hundred & twenty nine.

Turell Tufts
Andrew Blanchard Jr, *Committee*
Eben^{r}. Hall Jun, *of the Town*
John B. Clisby *of Medford*
John B. Fitch
Samuel Chittenden ”

MEDFORD ASSEMBLY OR DANCING CLASS.

Organized Nov., 1808.

Copied by Helen T. Wild.

THE Gentlemen of Medford desirous to enjoy the Social and Elegant Amusement of Dancing for at least three evenings do hereby agree, all who subscribe our names, to bear an equal share of the expenditures of the same, in testimony whereof we severally subjoin our signatures.

No gentleman to be admitted under Twenty-one years of age.

Genl John Brooks
Hon^l Timothy Bigelow
Josiah Bradlee
Sam Buel
Eben^r Hall.
Hon P. C. Brooks.
Edmt. Dunkin
N. B. Dunkin
Sam. Gray
John Brooks
Isaac Brooks
James Brooks
Jno. Le Bozquet
James Gilchrist
Jona. Warner.
Jona. Porter.
John Hosmer
Dudley Hall
Josh. Manning
Saml Swan Jr.
B. L. Swan
Joseph Swan
Samuel Weed
Nath'l Hall
Jno. Bishop
Jno. Bishop Jr.
Thos. Brooks
Epm. Hall
Abner Bartlett.

RULES FOR THE ASSEMBLY.

Nov. 18, 1808, at the Meeting of the Committee of arrangements the following rules were drawn up for the regulations of the Medford Assembly.

1st. — No person to be admitted as a subscriber who does not belong to the town.

2nd. — Each subscriber shall be entitled to a ticket for himself and for a number of Ladies not exceeding three — subscribers tickets to be issued for the season.

3d. — Each subscriber shall be entitled to one disposable Gentlemens ticket at each assembly for which he shall be answerable to the managers at four dollars each, and any Gentleman so admitted shall have the privilege of introducing one lady, for whom he shall receive a ticket from the managers on application.

4th. — The managers are authorized at their discretion to present Honorary tickets to public characters.

5th. — No gentleman to be introduced under twenty-one years of age.

6th. — No segars to be smoked in the Dining Hall or drawing rooms.

7th. — The dancing will commence at 6 o'clock precisely and no new dance will be called after 12 o'clock.

Nov. 21, 1808. The Committee of Arrangements reported the following statement which had been agreed to and signed by Mr. Blanchard

The Committee of Arrangements do agree to pay for Eighty Suppers at least at each assembly — the supper to consist of the following articles to be provided cold, viz.:

2 Hams, 15 lb. each.
4 Neats Tongues.
Cheese.
Crackers and biscuit.
cellery with dressing.
Fowles 2 dozen.

Liqors.

Best Lisbon Wine in bottles, good cogniac Brandy, Gin, Loaf Sugar.

Mr. Blanchard agrees to furnish the above mentioned articles at the following prices :

Supper at	$0.25
Wine for Bottle	0.66
Brandy per gall.	4.00
Gin	3.00
Loaf Sugar	
Lighting and Warming Hall and drawing rooms	9.00

The Hall, Drawing rooms and Supper rooms to be put in order to the satisfaction of the Managers.

Signed, Hezekiah Blanchard.

S. Swan
D. Hall
J. Hosmer
A. Bartlett
} Attest

No lady admitted under 15 years of age.

CAMBRIDGE

MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

763 Massachusetts Avenue,
CAMBRIDGEPORT, MASS.

DANA W. HYDE, President. ALFRED L. BARBOUR, Secretary

J. E. OBER, Agent, West Medford, Mass.

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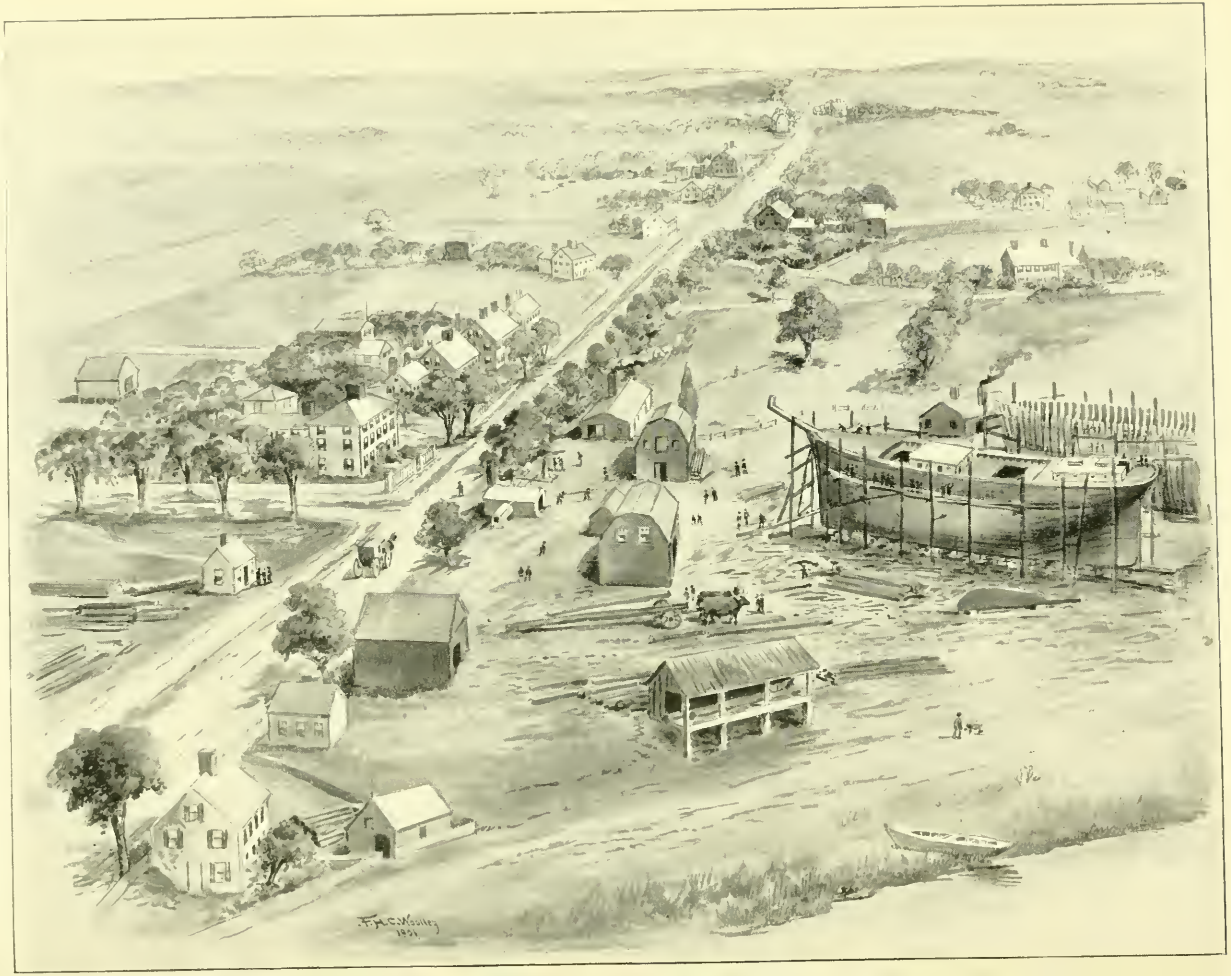
F. H. C. Woolley
1901

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OLD SHIP STREET.

Some of its Houses, Ships, and Characters.

By Fred. H. C. Woolley.

[Read before Medford Historical Society, May 20, 1901.]

STRETCHING southeastward from Medford square to Wellington farmhouse, shaded in part by buttonwoods, grass-edged, irregular, and rough, keeping in sight the river, in the early years of 1800 was a road known as the Town road or River road. The section of this road from the river landing opposite the foot of Cross street to Wellington was probably made to accommodate the two brick houses, then the only buildings in this part of Medford, with the exception of the Wellington farmhouse, built 1648–1652. One of these was at the eastern end of Governor Cradock's plantation, called the "Old Fort," built in 1634, and the other about five hundred feet north of this road at a point opposite the first shipyard. In 1746 the section from the market (Medford square) to the tide-mill (near Cross street) was opened.

When Thatcher Magoun, of Pembroke, Mass., came to Medford, and in 1802 selected a portion of land between the river and this road opposite its junction with Park street, and here located the FIRST ship-yard, an industry started that drew to Medford in the succeeding years many men and their families who located their homes along this road. These men came mainly from the Scituates, Marshfield, Hanover, and Pembroke, where for years ship-building had flourished, finding here better facilities for their chosen occupation; and so it came about that soon afterward a name was given to this street which seemed exactly fitting; for at a town meeting held May 4, 1829, a committee that had been appointed to recommend names for the streets reported as follows: "From Porter's corner southeast to Wellington farm, *Ship Street*." Unfortunately after fifty years the name "Ship street" was laid aside on petition of the last ship-builder of the Ship-street yards. Perhaps it seemed to him an appropriate thing to do, as ship-building was then in its decline in Medford, and it happened that *he* built the last ship. On Nov. 15, 1872, it was voted at town meeting that the name of Ship street be changed to Riverside Avenue, on petition of J. T. Foster and others.

The oldest residents on Riverside avenue and many others born and brought up on the old street still cling to the familiar name "Ship street." A quotation from the "Boston Transcript" of several years ago may not be out of place here.

Speaking of the way in which the ship-building industry of Medford has disappeared and left hardly a trace of the once familiar ship-yards along the meadow, the writer says: "Even the name of the street which commemorated the industry — 'Ship street,' which runs along the edge of this meadow — has been changed, with a totally Philistine indifference to the fitness of things, to 'Riverside avenue.' Perhaps, with the progress of popular cultivation and the coming of a better sense of what is fit and proper, the name of Ship street may be restored to the quiet old thoroughfare which leads out past the Cradock House; and then the town will possess at least one reminder of its noblest industry."

SOME OF ITS HOUSES AND CHARACTERS.

The men who came to Medford to engage in the ship-building industry and settled along Ship street built plain, substantial houses of ample proportion varying but little in style from one another. The square pitch roof with one large chimney in the centre, or a chimney at each end, was the predominant type. A few gambrel-roofed are still to be seen, but none of the hip-roofed type, of which there were three, are in existence. These houses, backed by orchards, fronted by the sturdy lilacs, guarded by sentinel posts at the front gateway of the picket fence, shaded by chestnut, buttonwoods, or elms, were the pride of those ship-builders and carpenters. There many of the substantial citizens of Medford grew up.

Mr. Thatcher Magoun, the pioneer ship-builder, built his residence at the easterly corner of Park and Ship streets, a large two and a half story house, hip-roofed, with a long L; and a barn somewhat back with a curving driveway thereto. Several large elms in later days shaded the place.

Here a great many of those who afterward became ship-builders boarded while serving their apprenticeship with Mr. Magoun. His ship-yard was opposite, where from 1803, the year of the launching of his first vessel, the "Mt. Ætna," until he launched his last, the "Deucalion," in 1836, he built more than any other one builder in Medford, his list of vessels numbering eighty-four. He finally removed to the residence he built on High street (now the Public Library). On Sept. 19, 1865, his old home, then occupied by several families as a tenement house, was completely burned.

Mr. Calvin Turner, who established the second shipyard at the corner of Cross and Ship streets, in 1805, lived in a house similar in build to Mr. Magoun's. It was situated near where the present Boston & Maine freight shed stands, and moved to Court street some years ago. Mr. Turner was esteemed a faithful builder, and is to be credited with twenty-five vessels.

Another contemporary was *Samuel Lapham*, son of George Bryant Lapham, of Marshfield, Mass., who came here in 1800, and built his homestead on Ship street, some distance below Park street and nearly opposite what is now Maverick street. Here was born, on Nov. 4, 1808, *Samuel Lapham* (2d), who became apprenticed to Thatcher Magoun, and, after serving his time, started business on his own account. He built his first vessel, the brig "Nabob," in 1830, at which time he purchased the yards and residence at the corner of Cross and Ship streets. The ship "Magnet," his twenty-third vessel, launched in 1856, was the last vessel built by him or in his yards. He then retired from the business of building vessels, in most of which he was part or sole owner. He built several ships, the "Argonaut," "Don Quixote," and others, for Mr. John E. Lodge, the father of Senator Henry Cabot Lodge.

Mr. Lapham was the first chief engineer of the Medford Fire Department. He died at his residence May 24, 1886.

Of all the homesteads on old Ship street, that of *Mr. Galen James* (Deacon James) stands out clearest in memory, situated at the corner of what is now known as Foster court. It was imposing; a large brown house, a long low ell connected with shed, carriage house and barn of ample proportion shaded by large elms. West of the house, along the street, an apple orchard, and to the south the marshes and river.

Mr. James, born in Scituate in 1790, came to Medford in the early years of 1800 and learned the ship-building trade of Thatcher Magoun, in whose family he lived while so doing. He built his house in 1820. He formed a partnership with Mr. Isaac Sprague and they started a ship-yard in 1817, the third in Medford, at the foot of what is now Foster court. Their first vessel was built in 1816, named the "Bocca Tigris;" the last in 1842, the bark "Altorf." Several of their vessels were built for Mr. Joseph Lee, of Boston, a bachelor of eccentric character.

As was customary, Mr. James had a number of apprentices who lived with him, including his own brothers. He had a long, old-fashioned table which would seat seven or eight on a side, the apprentices sitting at his right hand and those who were free at his left. Grace was always said and family prayers were the custom.

Sprague & James' yard was the first to abolish the eleven o'clock drink. It had been the business of the youngest apprentice to prepare it. They thought it a bad precedent. The men were called together and offered what the drinks would cost to be added to their wages. To this all agreed, but there were many who thought a vessel would never slide off the ways without it. However, the first vessel launched, after this change in custom, slid off successfully and a great hurrah went up.

Who that lived on Ship street can forget that familiar horse and carryall, in its trips to and from the square? "There goes Deacon James' 'gospel wagon'" was the expression as the Deacon, smiling all over, sat on the front seat surrounded by merry children, as many more filling the body of the carriage. Every child who lived along the street knew him, and looked for the coming of the old red horse and wagon, and he took them all in. Was not this the "gospel spirit"?

Mr. James died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Haskins, on April 14, 1879.

Mr. Isaac Sprague, the partner of Mr. James, came to Medford from Scituate and bought the house now known as the old Sprague house, situated near Spring street. This house had only two rooms in the main part, but was from time to time enlarged until it assumed goodly proportions. The barn was built by Mr. Sprague, at the raising of which many of the neighbors helped. Here he kept the oxen which he used in the ship-yard for hauling timber. Mr. William Sprague and Mr. Isaac Sprague, his sons, still live in Medford. He died Jan. 12, 1852, aged sixty-nine years.

A low one-storied house with large chimney and sloping roof, nestling amid lilacs and bright flowers, is remembered as the home of *Mr. Nathan Sawyer*, just this side of Mr. Sprague's. He came to Medford in 1827 and in 1836 bought this house of a Mrs. Hatch, living here until he died in 1873. He had charge of making all the ironwork used by Sprague & James in the building of their ships, and owned two or three shops, having many men to work for him.

Paul Curtis, a name well-known. When serving time as apprentice he was called "honest Paul." He was born in South Scituate, Dec. 26, 1800, and came to Medford at the age of eighteen, learning his trade of Thatcher Magoun. Living at first in a double house with Jotham Stetson off Ship street, on what was termed "the Island," he afterward built and lived in the house next below Thatcher Magoun's (now Mrs. Reed's). In 1839 he moved to South street and in 1852 to East Boston. Mr. Curtis built twenty-seven vessels at Magoun's yard. In partnership with J. O. Curtis he built six, and continued building at East Boston. In all, his list of vessels reached a hundred.

Waterman and Ewell succeeded Paul & J. O. Curtis at Magoun's yard. *Mr. Foster Waterman* was born in Barnstable, June 2, 1805. He entered the business of ship-carpenter, serving apprenticeship with the late Noah Brooks, of South Boston, from which place he came to Medford and lived in the house of Oakman Joyce. He formed a partnership with Mr. Henry Ewell. They built here fifty-one vessels. He died at Nantasket beach at his summer residence, July 22, 1870. His daughter is Mrs. R. H. Stearns, of Boston. His partner, Mr. Henry Ewell, born at Marshfield, Dec. 31, 1806, was apprenticed to Thatcher Magoun at the age of seventeen. The house at the corner of Pleasant street and Riverside avenue now occupied by Mrs. Cudworth was built for Mr. Ewell and afterward sold to Mr. William Cudworth. On giving up business in Medford Mr. Ewell went to Quincy and then to East Boston, continuing in the same business.

From 1831 to 1860 many of the houses on Ship street were built by *Mr. Oakman Joyce*, who came to Medford with his brother Samuel Joyce from Marshfield; and bought land along the street between Mr. Magoun's and Mr. Lapham's. For his brother Samuel he built the house afterward occupied by Roland Jacobs. Next below this he built his own in 1831, with timber cut from his wood-lot in Marshfield and brought here in a vessel. His reputation as a carpenter and builder is sustained by the quality of the houses he built. This may be seen in those on either corner of Pleasant street and Riverside avenue, and in many others in this vicinity. His work entered into the construction of the old Unitarian church, a Unitarian church in Chelsea, and a Methodist church in Malden. In later years he ran the saw-mill for Mr. Magoun at his ship-yard, afterward going into the coal business at what was recently Mr. Bean's wharf. He died July 21, 1869.

Mr. Roland Jacobs, born in Thomaston, Maine, in 1808, came early to Medford and learned ship-carpentering of Sprague & James. His home was next above Oakman Joyce's. In 1856 he worked for Mr. Magoun, and during the Civil War, in the navy yard. In 1873 he was working in Mr. Foster's ship-yard. After ship-building ceased Deacon Jacobs might any day be found at his carpenter shop, back of his house, making wheelbarrows; a conscientious, painstaking workman, whose wheelbarrows needed no further warrant than that they were "made by Deacon Jacobs." He died March 23, 1879.

The white house with cupola, built by Mr. C. S. Jacobs, back from the street among the trees, with the long iron fence front, and opposite the old Sprague homestead, is known as the home of *Mr. Joshua T. Foster*, proprietor of the *last* ship-yard. He came to Medford from South Scituate in 1826, and served with Sprague & James. In 1852 he became partner with Mr. John Taylor, succeeding his old employers. Afterward he became sole owner of the yard, where, until he launched his last in 1873, he built some famous vessels,— forty-two in all. He was captain of the Medford militia in 1834; and held many offices in the town, being for eleven years a selectman, and four years assessor. In 1883–4 he represented Medford in the Legislature. He died Nov. 21, 1895.

We have now sauntered slowly down old Ship street from the home of the pioneer ship-builder at the corner of Park street; have stood in front of the homes or the sites of the homes of those men who made Medford ships famous, and in memory they have lived again. Turning now westward from Park street, other homes and persons come to mind who had their part in this important industry.

At the upper corner of Pleasant street was the house of *Mr. William Cudworth*, who, in partnership with Mr. Elisha Hayden, was the last to carry on shipbuilding at the old Magoun yard. Both these men came from Scituate, Mr. Cudworth being born Jan. 15, 1814, at a place now called Greenbush. His schooling was cut short at the age of thirteen, when he was sent to sea (his father being a captain) to help in support of the family. From his youth he loved ships, and it is said he used to draw and cut upon the panels of the rooms of his early home pictures of vessels in varied rig. Hayden & Cudworth built their first ship — the "Horsburgh," 577 tons — in 1846; their largest and last — the "Henry Hastings," 1,500 tons — in 1866; in all thirty-nine vessels. Mr. Cudworth served the town of Medford as one of its selectmen several times; was a representative to the Legislature for three consecutive sessions. He died at his home Feb. 2, 1877.

In the fine finish required for the interior of a ship's cabin, the workmanship of *Mr. Japhet Sherman* held a superior place. His trim-looking house, just below the corner of Pleasant street, was his residence from the time he built it, fifty-two years. He came from Marshfield, born there in 1818. In 1834 he apprenticed himself to Oakman Joyce, to learn carpentering and joinering, which trade he followed through life. His thoroughness and skill still speak in the fine work on the interiors of the houses of Gen. Samuel C. Lawrence, James W. Tufts, George L. Stearns, and Hon. Edward Brooks. He was a member of Volunteer Fire Department of General Washington, No. 3, and was instrumental in detecting the incendiaries who made the year 1855 one of terror. On his advocacy the cemetery was constituted a separate department of town government. He served six years on the first Board of Trustees. His zest for nature was keen. He knew every rare plant, and where in our woods it grew. His knowledge of shade and fruit trees was sought, and he shared his secrets with his neighbors. He passed away on Feb. 17, 1897.

Mr. Cram, the pump-maker, lived in the low house just opposite Pleasant street. He was always in demand. Judah Loring's home was next above Mr. Cudworth's. He was a ship-carpenter, having a shop located near the present railroad crossing.

Mr. Samuel Clark, who has just built a house on the site of Jonathan Sampson's homestead, came to Medford from Hanover in 1834 and was apprenticed to Edward Eells, a former ship-builder in Hanover who came to Medford in 1822 and did the joiner-work for many of the vessels built here. He died in 1838 and his son Robert L. succeeded him in business. Mr. Clark married the youngest daughter of Edward Eells in 1845 and lived many years in the old home. He is the only survivor of all the workers in the ship-yards *living on this old street*, and is in his eighty-fourth year.

The long tenement house known as "the Colleges" still stands. How it ever came to have a name like that is not known. An old deed conveying the property from one John Cutter, of Woburn, to Samuel Cutter, of Charlestown, dated Oct. 23, 1824, describes it as "a large dwelling-house . . . known by the name of 'the Colleges.'"

Passing by Lapham's ship-yard, which has been noticed, just beyond on the edge of the river was the old tide-mill of the days of 1746. At first a grist mill, it was afterward used for various purposes such as grinding of seed and paint and sawing and planing of lumber. It was burned on the early morning of April 19, 1894, but has been rebuilt and still runs and hums as of old.

There was Mr. Clough, who did coopering in a shop back of his house at the corner of Sables court. James Ford, who had a mould shop near his large house. Beyond this, Aaron Blanchard's, Mr. Wheeler's, and Calvin Turner's. Then you came to Gravelly creek wriggling its way over marshy land to the mill pond; it was crossed by a wooden bridge. Just above where the railroad crosses the street, on the left were Alexander Gregg's stables. Mr. Gregg was a prominent man in town affairs, having been a butcher, then a schoolmaster, then doing a large business teaming. He served in town offices and in the Legislature.

The last house on the right, gambrel-roofed, is the old Blanchard house, now occupied by daughter and granddaughter of Mr. Gilbert Blanchard, who bought the place of Mr. Dudley Hall. Here for several years Mrs. Buckman kept a private school for boys and girls. Mr. Blanchard kept a grocery store in the brick building, corner of Ship and Salem streets.

Many others might be mentioned who have borne an important part in the old street's history, but space forbids. Jonathan Porter's store ("Porter's corner") at the square has been reached. The street was named beginning at this corner.

SOME OF ITS SHIPS.

Ship "Gem of the Ocean," 730 tons, built by Hayden & Cudworth, was launched at midnight, Aug. 4, 1852, on account of the tide. Each man brought his lantern. Mr. Cudworth's mother, then seventy years of age, never having witnessed a launch, came up from Scituate and was present at the event — a great one for her.

Ship "Electric Spark," 1,200 tons, launched at the same yard in 1855, was commanded by Capt. R. G. F. Candage (now of Brookline) and made the voyage to California in one hundred and six days.

The "Boston Advertiser" of Saturday, May 10, 1856, has the following advertisement:

GLIDDEN & WILLIAMS LINE FOR SAN FRANCISCO

To Sail on or before Tuesday, May 20,

THE MAGNIFICENT FIRST-CLASS CLIPPER SHIP

"THATCHER MAGOUN"

S. B. BOURNE, Comdr.

The "Thatcher Magoun" is truly an elegant ship extremely sharp and ventilated in the most thorough manner. She will sail as above.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

For Freight or Passage

Apply at CALIFORNIA PACKET OFFICE

39 Lewis Wharf.

She was built by Hayden & Cudworth.

To illustrate the quality of work by a famous Medford ship-builder a lady relates this experience:

She was returning from Europe with husband and family on the ship "John E. Thayer." They encountered an unusually severe gale lasting three days, with constantly increasing violence. The passengers became so alarmed that the captain was appealed to for assurances of safety. While he admitted the storm to be the worst he had ever known, he called the ladies to the cabin and asked them to notice the builder's name in golden letters on the white enamelled panel. They read this: "PAUL CURTIS, BUILDER." He assured them that no ship of his had ever foundered,— no ships had so high a record for low insurance rates, — no timber or bolt was introduced unless free from all defect. "I assure you, ladies," he said, "I think she will ride this terrible storm safely." The ship came safely through the storm. Although this ship is not in the list of Medford-built vessels, this incident is well worth a record here on account of the builder being one of Medford's best.

In 1851 there was constructed by B. F. Delano, at Magoun's yard, the ship "Dauntless," of 800 tons, faultless in every particular, the pride of the builder and owner. She was commanded by Captain Miller, who then lived in the large house at the corner of Revere place and Salem street. From the day she sailed away no tidings of her ever came to shore.

The ship "Don Quixote," built at Foster's yard in 1868 (A picture of this vessel is reproduced on the invitations to this meeting. She is represented just before the launch.) has a notice in the "Boston Evening Journal" of Oct. 29, 1868, as follows: "Launched, ship 'Don Quixote.' A fine vessel of about 1,000 tons was launched by Mr. Foster, at Medford, a few days since. She now lies at Long wharf and will load for San Francisco." Her commander was Captain Nelson, formerly of ship "Golden Fleece," and she sailed for Winsor's regular line for San Francisco.

The ship "Pilgrim," — long may she be remembered as the *last* of all the vessels built and launched on the shores of the Mystic! She was constructed at J. T. Foster's yard for Henry Hastings & Co. Of nearly a thousand tons, launched on Dec. 3, 1873, she sailed to Hong Kong Feb. 14, 1874, with a cargo of ice, and was commanded by Capt. Frank Fowle, making the passage in one hundred and twenty-one days. Afterward, in December, 1889, was sold to Daniel Bacon, of New York. She was constructed of finest material, sailed the world over, making fair passages, and was lost.

SHIP-BUILDING.

In the early days of ship-building, work in the yards began with sunrise and ended at sunset, with allowance of time for meals. In later times the work hours were from 7 in the morning until 6 at night with an hour's nooning. Usually about sixty men were employed building a ship. They were the ship-carpenters, the calkers, the outboard and inboard joiners. The wages received were $2 per day, apprentices receiving $40 to $50 per year and board; many of the apprentices boarded with the proprietor of the yard. To build a 1,000 or 1,200 ton ship required about six months. In early times the timber was obtained in the neighborhood — then in New Hampshire — from where it was transported via the old Middlesex canal to Medford and drawn by ox-teams to the ship-yard. It was a sight in winter to see these teams go by — creaking, squeaking, the oxen with frosted backs and icicles hanging from their mouths.

Much might be written about the building of a ship from the laying of the first timber to the finishing touch, but that must be left for another time.

To be in the yard watching the varied processes going on in the ship's construction was the acme of delight to the interested boy. Oftentimes a few pennies were earned by some errand or by tending the steam-shed fire. "Looking in at the open door" of the blacksmith shop never lacked in attraction for the children. In early days matches were unknown, and old Mr. Lapham, the blacksmith, would be seen daily coming up the street from his house with his fire-brand to light his forge fire. What a supply of "chewing-gum" for the children there was in those big kettles of tar where all were permitted to help themselves without spending a cent!

The great day was the day of the launch. The neighborhood poured out — old ship captains came from far and near, — the "school-marm" and her flock of boys and girls. It was a sight — grand, impressive, to look at the great ship that had been building so many months, now awaiting, in her dress of black and green, the incoming tide, when, the last block knocked from under, she would slide into the Mystic.

I remember while awaiting the high tide at a launch at Foster's yard that the "Great American Traveller," Daniel Pratt, located himself, with the aid of the boys, on a post at the river-end of the yard and began one of his rhapsodies on "that famous ship-canal from Medford to Chelsea, wherein great vessels should float to the sea," — that about in the middle of his remarks the launch took place and the water displaced rushed inward over the yard, leaving Daniel on the post surrounded, his audience being fleeter of foot having escaped inland. The flood soon subsided, and folding up his manuscript, which he always carried, Daniel was helped down and departed.

The impressions of boyhood last. Especially indelible are the pictures of the ship-yards upon memory, although the yards are grass-grown and scarcely a timber marks the spot. The daily procession of toilers to and from the yards, and the rhythmic clank, clank — clank, clank, of the calkers, still are seen and heard.

Of all the buildings in all the yards but one stands today — an old building in Foster's yard. A slight depression near by on the edge of the river marks the spot where the last ship was launched, — the "Pilgrim." The tides come and go as they always have. Old Ship street with its ships has passed into history. No shipbuilder is now living. Their sons and daughters are still with us.

CIVIC FEAST IN MEDFORD.

The "Columbian Centinel" of Jan. 30, 1793, contains the following account of the Civic Festival held to Commemorate the success of the French people in their fight for Liberty. Paper in possession of Benjamin F. Fenton.

THE Civic Feaſt was celebrated at Medford, on the 24th inſt. by a large number of the citizens of that town, and the following patriotick Toaſts given.

1. The United States of America.

2. Victory and Happineſs to our Illuſtrious Allies, the Patriotic Citizens of France.

3. The Gallant Officers and Soldiers of the French Army.

4. The National Convention of France — May they plan ſuch a Conſtitution of Government as ſhall give Joy and Safety to their Conſtituents — and enlighten all Europe.

5. The Patriot of Patriots, GEORGE WASHINGTON, Preſident of the United States of America.

6. The American Congreſs.

7. May the alliance ſubſiſting between France and America be perpetual.

8. Governor HANCOCK, and the Patriots of Maſſachuſetts.

9. Brunſwick's diſgrace, and retreat to the Ruſſian Armies in Poland.

10. Thomas Paine, and the Rights of man — May they be underſtood and adopted by all mankind.

11. May the People of France, having wreſted the Septre from Monarchy, enjoy Liberty without Anarchy.

12. A ſpeedy and univerſal downfall of Tyranny and Oppreſſion, and may Liberty and Equality be triumphant.

13. May the Hatchet be buried between the United States and the Indians, until the helve be crumbled to duſt.

14. La Fayette — May he be ſpeedily reſtored to the confidence of his Country.

15. May we be ſoon invited again to aſſemble on Events equally auſpicious with the preſent.

A Volunteer, given by a Gentleman formerly a Citizen of Ireland.

"May our next rejoicing on this occaſion be for the freedom of Ireland."

AN OLD ACCOUNT BOOK.

By Helen T. Wild.

ONE of the well-known figures about town previous to 1851 was Mr. Aaron Blanchard, the sexton of the Second Congregational Church. He was a tailor by trade, but to this occupation he added the care of the church building and the reading room in the old Tufts house, corner of High and Forest street.

His account book, which is the property of the Medford Historical Society, is interesting, giving hints as it does of the customs of other days. He used it not only to keep a record of his business, but wrote in it items pertaining to the church. In connection with his other duties, he tolled the bell for funerals, and the names of those for whom he performed this sad office, from 1827 to 1847, while he was sexton, are duly recorded. His business records are from 1815 to 1848.

Now when the old church building is being remodelled for commercial purposes, the list of movables which belonged to the church in Mr. Blanchard's time adds another item of interest to the history of the edifice.

Forty-six settees accommodated the Sunday-school. Fifteen Japan lamps, and four glass lamps on brass stands lighted the vestry. The reading desk was provided with a Bible, cushion, and singing books.

The church was lighted by twenty-four brass lamps and tins (reflectors?) six glass lamps and brass stands were "for the pulpit." One mahogany table and two chairs, coverings for pulpit and curtains, one Bible and two hymn books, two contribution boxes, two stoves, and a fire set with brass knobs completed the furnishings. The top of the stove in the meeting house was thirty-seven and a half inches long and twenty-two wide. Sometimes, Mr. Blanchard records, lectures were given in the church on secular subjects. Under date of Oct. 11, 1833, he writes: "Lecture in vestry by M. Fowle on rocks, shark's jaws, mountains &c." In Mr. Blanchard's day people manufactured their own ink, and Mr. Blanchard, who was a fine penman, made his very carefully by the following receipt: 2 oz. nut gall, 1 do. Copperas, ½ do. gum arabic to 1 qt. Rain Water.

Among Mr. Blanchard's friends and patrons were Governor Brooks, John Bishop, Benjamin and Dudley Hall, Dr. Daniel Swan and his brother Joseph, Rev. Charles Brooks, Major John Wade, Turrell Tufts, and others. In 1815 Mr. John Bishop, Richard Hall, Major Wade, and Samuel Kidder still wore small clothes. In 1820 Major Wade was charged "for seating and repairing small clothes 37c." It is said that Major Wade was the last man in Medford to wear the ruffled shirt, small clothes, and shoe buckles of the colonial period. Mr. Blanchard's price for making a surtout coat was three dollars. In 1815 a "great coat" was provided with silver hooks and rings. Dr. Swan's had a large cape and velvet collar.

In 1816 Mr. Benjamin Floyd, 3d had a "swelled edge coat, and a pair of trim^{d} pantaloons."

Making a bound vest cost twice as much as a plain one.

When pockets were put into coats there was an extra charge made.

Breast pockets were mentioned in 1817.

Vests which were buttoned were especially noted. One set of buttons often did duty on several coats. "thrible gilt buttons @ 4 shillings a dozen" would wear out more than one. Hooks and eyes were first mentioned in 1817. Rev. Converse Francis in 1818 is charged for a black silk coat. In 1818 Mr. Francis Kidder rejoiced in a military coat with gilt buttons which cost him a dollar more than a surtout coat for the making. He also had a coat made from a surtout, and was by no means alone in wearing made-over clothing. One of his neighbors had "gilt buttons put on his old coat," and another had his surtout turned. Turell Tufts, one of the wealthiest men in town, had his Camlet coat turned.

In his tailor shop Mr. Blanchard kept an assortment of handkerchiefs, stays, and braces, and he often accommodated his patrons by making their winter underwear.

He must have derived much pleasure and intellectual profit from his work at the reading room; he certainly made little financially, as his salary for one year and eleven months was forty-nine dollars. In the reading room he was found dead one morning in December, 1850. His epitaph reads: "As thy servant was busy here and there he was gone."

LETTER FROM JOHN BROOKS TO DUDLEY HALL.

[Original in possession of Arthur T. Loomis.]

Albany, June 15, 1811.

My dear Sir:

We all arrived safely in this city at 8 o'clock last evening. Owing to very crowded stages the first day's journey was rather expeditious than agreeable. The second day we had an extra carriage, which rendered the latter part of the journey extremely pleasant. The ladies were less fatigued than might have been expected. Hepsey[1] sustained her ride remarkably well. To-day we all seemed perfectly willing to rest. We are at Gregory's, who has contributed all in his power to refresh and recruit us. He gives us a profusion of strawberries. Hepsey has added them to her lacteal regime, to which she strictly adheres. I gave Mrs. Brooks an airing this morning around the suburbs of the city as far to the northward as to give her a view of Troy. Previously, however, I conducted the ladies to the wharf and gave them a view of a steamboat. We had just time eno' to visit the different apartments before she sailed for New York. The whole was a great treat to us all and has added to the strength of our wishes, which were previously very strong to participate with you, the pleasure of a passage in one of those wonderful aquatic vehicles to New York. Before Tea, which is but just over, the ladies took a shopping stroll thro' some of the principal streets of the ancient city, and viewed some of the houses of Knickerbocker memory, the bricks and tiles of which were imported in days of yore from the Dutch Netherlands. With the miserable appearance of these buildings, we may rank among the most disagreeable things of Albany, the dirt and stench of the streets and the grunting of as many swine as a certain female we read of possessed of demons. But on the other hand we saw a number of very handsome public edifices, and many good private dwelling houses, and a good deal of business, as Saturday is a market day, going on in the streets. As we were descending State street, on returning from our ramble, we were shocked with an accident which happened directly before our eyes. A large powerful horse was descending State street in a cart loaded heavily with gravel. The load pressed very hard on the horse and he attempted to kick up, but the driver, who was a negro, instead of soothing, irritated the horse, and precipitated him into a full run. The driver, who was standing on top of the load, seeing himself in danger, leaped with great agility upon the pavement, but being unable to maintain his feet pitched forward under the left wheel, and his brains were instantly dashed out. I wished my female friends had been elsewhere. The subject is an unpleasant one to dream upon.

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[1] Hepsey Hall, sister of Dudley Hall.

To-morrow, after we shall have united with some of our Christian brethren in the usual sacrifices of the day, we propose going on to Schenectady, and on Monday continuing our course to the Westward.

Hepsey postpones writing until she reaches Canandaigua.

Mrs. B. and Mrs. S. were engaged this evening with Miss Gregory, who sings and plays on the piano in excellent style, and I engaged to write to you in her stead. Her duty, love &c. &c. to her Mother, yourself &c. &c.

With great affection and esteem I am

Yours,

J. Brooks.

Mr. Dudley Hall.

THE McKINLEY MEMORIAL SERVICE.

THE gathering in the Opera House on Thursday, September 19, the day proclaimed by National and State authorities as one of mourning for the late well-beloved President, and the honoring of his memory by public religious services, was one of the memorable mass meetings of the citizens of Medford.

The hall was filled to overflowing. The platform was occupied by members of the City Government and the clergymen of the city, by whom the service was conducted.[1] His Honor Mayor Baxter presided. The exercises opened with the singing of Watts' noble hymn, "O God our help in ages past." Invocation by Rev. M. A. Levy (Baptist). Singing, Cardinal Newman's beautiful hymn, "Lead, Kindly Light." Reading of Scripture by Rev. C. L. Eaton (Universalist).

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[1] Rev. G. S. Chadbourne (Methodist) was absent from the city when details of the meeting were arranged.

Prayer by Rev. J. V. Clancy (Congregational). Brief remarks by Mayor Baxter. Address by Rev. T. L. Flanagan (Catholic). Singing, Toplady's precious hymn, "Rock of Ages." Address by Rev. H. C. DeLong (Unitarian). Address by Rev. F. I. Paradise (Episcopal). Singing, the ever favorite hymn, "Nearer my God to Thee." Address by Rev. Elijah Horr, D.D. (Congregational). Singing, "America." Benediction by Rev. Isaac Pierson (Congregational).

The singing, which was by the audience, led by cornet and piano, was grand and uplifting, an inspiration to participator and listener.

The addresses were in good taste, and impressively appropriate to the theme and the occasion. The address by Dr. Horr was especially fervid and eloquent, and at its close, notwithstanding the service was a *memorial* one, the great audience was so in sympathy with the speaker's magnetic oratory that a burst of applause went over the hall.

Dr. Horr's application of Tennyson's lines from "In Memoriam" to the life of President McKinley was very effective:

"Dost thou look back on what hath been,
As some divinely gifted man,
Whose life in low estate began
And on a simple village green;

"Who breaks his birth's invidious bar,
And grasps the skirts of happy chance
And breasts the blows of circumstance
And grapples with his evil star;

"Who makes by force his merit known
And lives to clutch the golden keys,
To mould a mighty State's decrees
And shape the whisper of the throne;

"And moving up from high to higher,
Becomes on Fortune's crowning slope
The pillar of a people's hope,
The centre of a world's desire."

C. H. Loomis.

THE ROYALL HOUSE.

THE Royall House has been furnished by the Sarah Bradlee Fulton Chapter, D.A.R., this year, and is used by them as a Chapter House. It is also open to visitors every day except Sunday. Since the opening day, April 19, 1901, over eight hundred have availed themselves of the privilege of visiting the historic mansion. That the fame of the place has gone far and wide is proved by those who come from long distances. Persons registered from many distant States, including Mississippi, Florida, Texas, California, and Washington on the Pacific, and even from Canada, England, and Honolulu.

Several members of the Royall family have been at the house, and other descendants of those who in bygone days made the house their home.

The Harvard Summer School were interested guests in July, and note-books were in demand when the Regent of the Chapter read a short historical address. Various chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Boston Society Sons of the American Revolution have made the house the goal of their summer outings.

September twentieth the State Regent and regents of Massachusetts D.A.R. held a meeting at the house and discussed at length the possibility of making the place a permanent historical museum.

NOTES.

Parson Osgood's account of the Dark Day, May 19, 1780.

"A very unusual darkness began about 10, & gradually increased till near one, and then as gradually Went off. I could Not read in ye Bible at ye window It was so dark. It rained in ye Morning, & continued cloudy throu ye day. In ye time of ye darkness ye heavens bore a brassy look."

Extract from the "Boston Mercury," Aug. 7, 1798.

"The Subscriber hereby notifies the Retailers of Wines & Foreign Distilled Spirits, and the Keepers of Riding Carriages, that attendance will be given at the Office of Inspection in Medford every day in the month of September next (Sundays Excepted) from 9 to 12 o'clock A. M. and 2 to 5 P. M.

"Retailers and others concerned are cautioned against penalties that may be avoided.

"SAMUEL SWAN, *Collector of Revenue.*"

From the "Christian Register," June 21, 1822.

"DIED. — On the Coast of Africa, in April last, Darius W. and J. W. Blanchard, master and supercargo of brig. Pedlar, of this port, (Boston) and sons of the late Mr. Hezekiah Blanchard, of Medford."

From manuscripts in possession of Swan Family.

Garb of Mr. Samuel Swan of Charlestown who died August 6, 1808, aged 86. Father of Major Samuel Swan and grandfather of Dr. Daniel Swan.

A three corner fine Beaver black hat. A large full curled wig. A claret colored fine broad cloth coat with wide flaps and large pockets. A long waistcoat flared off at bottom, with large pockets and buttoned up high in front. Small clothes of black cloth with knee band and knee buckles, black woolen stockings. Shoes high at the instep, with wide straps and large silver buckles. A plain smooth cane with a gold head and metal end. Gloves.

This dress he wore on Sundays to church and when he went to Boston to get his quarterly dividends on his United States stock.

MEETINGS OF THE MEDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, SIXTH YEAR, 1901–1902.

October 21. — "Mrs. Jane Turell: Her Life and Work." Mrs. C. H. Morss, and Social Meeting.
November 18. — "The March of the Army under Arnold, from Cambridge to Quebec." Mr. E. H. Hines, of Danvers.
December 16. — "The Old Medford Turnpike, with Glimpses at the Brick Makers." Mr. John F. Ayer, President of Somerville Historical Society.
January 20. — "Grace Church of Medford." Mr. Benj. P. Hollis.
February 17. — "Physical Geography of Medford." Mr. W. S. Beekman.
March 17. — The Annual Meeting.
April 21. — "The Lawyers of Medford." Mr. H. A. Weitz.
May 19. — "The Lawrence Light Guard of Medford." Miss Helen T. Wild.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS AND ADDRESSES.

David H. Brown, *Chairman.*
John H. Hooper. Miss Agnes W. Lincoln.
John Ward Dean. Dr. R. J. P. Goodwin.
William Cushing Wait.

A SUMMER SENTIMENT.

The woods are filled with friends;
Their presence, without human speech,
Is sweet to every sense.
Like strains of low-voicèd music
From keys pressed down by unseen hands,
They tinge unspoken thoughts with beauty,
While in the silence of the peace unbroken,
We weave our fancies
Into dreams of love and duty.

C. H. L.

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